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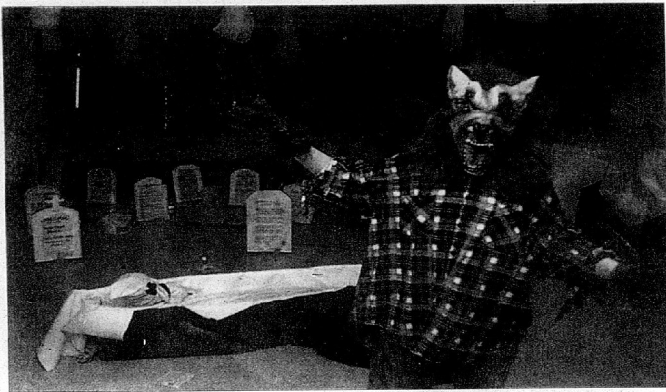
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VOLUME 30, NUMBER 87

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 31, 1999

FIFTY CENTS

Spooky school



The wolfman was one of many ghouls and goblins at the Madison Middle School haunted house on Thursday night.

Hearing set for TIF addition

Village officials considering new financing district

By Scott Cousins
 Staff writer

A public hearing on a second tax increment financing district in Pontoon Beach has been scheduled for 7 p.m. Dec. 28 at Village Hall. Pontoon Beach village officials are considering the creation of a second tax increment financing district to attract business northeast of the Illinois Route 111 and Interstate 270 interchange.

"If you take a look around, if there is growth going on there is a TIF along with it."

Jim Denham
 Mayor

The proposed TIF district would be approximately 650 acres, and would include the Gateway 270 Commerce

Park now under development, as well as additional properties nearby. "We want growth out here," Mayor Jim Denham said. "If you take a look around, if there is growth going on there is a TIF along with it."

That area is expected to develop as office space and small warehousing. Previously, village officials said the actual TIF area would probably be smaller when completed, but

See TIF, Page 12A

Local nightclub under fire by Vincent

Underage drinking, reckless driving, trash problems cited

By Scott Cousins
 Staff writer

Complaints about underage drinkers and other problems at Brewski's, a nightclub/restaurant in Pontoon Beach, led to an argument between the owner and Trustee Bob Vincent.

Brewski's, which opened about five months ago as a nightclub, but only recently received approval to open the restaurant portion of the business, is located in the former Shooters 270 building at 77 Chouteau Trace Parkway. Bars at that location have had a history of

"I've had two mothers call me about their daughters leaving there."

Gary Wallace
 Police chief

problems with residents in the adjoining neighborhoods, where Vincent lives.

At Tuesday's Village Board meeting, owner Mike Scaturra said he was planning to end "College Nights" on Thursdays, when 18-year-olds are allowed in the bar,

in an attempt to stop problems. Police Chief Gary Wallace said Thursday that he has had several complaints about underage drinking.

"I've had two mothers call me about their daughters leaving there," he said. In one case, an 18-year-old SUITE student was pulled over and charged with DUI after leaving the bar. Wallace said it appeared that bartenders were not the ones supplying alcohol to the underage drinkers, but it was friends who were buying drinks for them.

"I can't stop a lot of things, but I can stop that," Scaturra said.

See NIGHTCLUB, Page 12A

Search begins for woman's heirs

Will being contested due to death circumstances

By Dennis Grubaugh
 Staff writer

The hunt has begun for heirs of a Pontoon Beach woman who left her estate to the woman accused of killing her in 1992.

Attorneys involved in the probate case of the late Olive Marie Apponey, 86, agreed Wednesday in Madison County Circuit

"You can't presumably cause someone's death and then collect from it."

Steve Stobbs
 Attorney

Court to seek out potential heirs before proceeding with

what is likely to be a hotly contested trial about the woman's final will.

The search will not have to go far. A Roxana woman and her sister, nieces and Apponey, filed claims on the estate in 1993 and still are interested in the case.

The will in question names Keith D. and Carolyn Sue Kramer of Pontoon Beach, as the sole beneficiaries. They are the husband

See HEIRS, Page 12A

Mother angered at child's three-day class suspension

7-year-old brought nail clippers/file to school

By Michael Heil
 Staff writer

The mother of a 7-year-old Granite City boy who has been suspended for three days for bringing a nail clipper to school is angered by the severity of punishment her son received.

"I'm disgusted," Joyce

"He should be getting an education, not being kicked out of school."

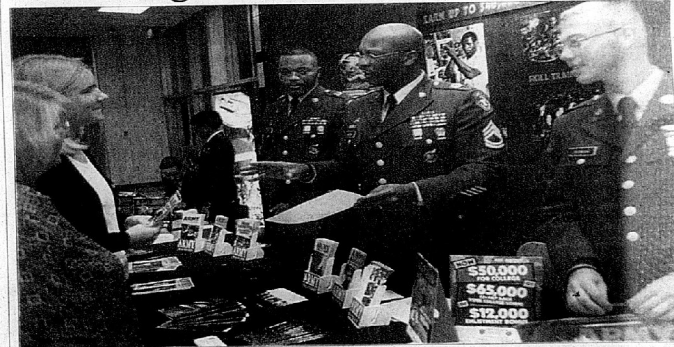
Joyce Madden
 Mother

Madden said. "He should be getting an education, not being kicked out of school. He doesn't understand that a nail clipper could be considered dangerous."

Derek Moss, a second grader, was sent home from Marshall Elementary School Monday morning after a custodian observed Derek displaying the nail clipper at a

See SUSPENSION, Page 12A

Checking out career paths



Jessica Harper, a junior at Granite City Sr. High, and her mother, Connie, talk to Army representatives SSG Curry, SFC Hopkins and PFC Denson during College Night Wednesday evening.

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 Mike Roberts, Meteorologist
 KSDK-TV, NewsChannel 5, Weather Source Team

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
66/48	68/40	59/39	45/42

Granite City Journal

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Gas leak threatens lunch hour

Broken gas line causes concern in Edwardsville

By Barbara M. Cope
Staff writer

A potentially dangerous gas leak at a fast-food restaurant caused a few anxious moments for some area motorists and businesses gearing up for the high-traffic lunch hour Wednesday.

The Edwardsville Fire Department responded to the Jack-in-the-Box restaurant at 300 S. Buchanan St., Edwardsville, at 11:41 a.m. after receiving a report about a broken gas line.

"We were very fortunate. This could have been a very dangerous situation," Fire Chief Mike Karlechik said. Karlechik said a crew doing maintenance work on the roof of the restaurant dropped a heat exchanger, breaking a regulator off the restaurant's gas meter, as its way to the ground. Witnesses said the stench of mercaptan, the chemical added to natural gas to give it an identifying odor, could be smelled for most of a block.

"By a stroke of luck, an Illinois Power worker was in the area, so his response time was about three minutes," Karlechik said. "We also had extremely good cooperation from the Police Department, who blocked off traffic and began evacuating

everyone for about a one-half-block radius." Police cars diverted traffic around the intersection at South Buchanan and Schwarzs streets until the leak was capped. Officers also evacuated four nearby businesses - Amoco Quick Six, Pizza Hut, Annie's Frozen Custard and The Cyclery - as a safety precaution. Shortly after police

"We were very fortunate. This could have been a very dangerous situation."

Mike Karlechik
Fire Chief

started to go house-to-house to evacuate residents near the restaurant, the fire department gave the "all clear," Karlechik said.

Pizza Hut Manager Janet Hiles said the evacuation caused a disruption in her customers' lunches, but she was thankful the situation was resolved quickly.

"We were evacuated for a total of about six minutes," Hiles said. "By the time we got everybody out, and I came back to turn off the ovens, left and locked doors,

I walked down to Farm Fresh, and they said everybody could come back." She said the leak started just after the restaurant opened and their lunch buffet started, so the main force of the lunch rush had not arrived yet.

"It was right around noon, so we had just opened. We had about a dozen people in the restaurant, but it could have been much worse," Hiles said. "A couple of people didn't come back, but most everyone that was here was very gracious about it."

Ann Colter, an employee at The Cyclery, said the experience was more startling than frightening. "It was pretty interesting. We had a guy out on a test ride when they came in and told us we have to leave now," Colter said. "When we asked if we could put things away and lock up the store, he just told us, 'Leave now.' So we got everyone out of the store. There was a really strong gas smell in the air, but we were only out of the store for about 10 minutes."

Karlechik said a strong breeze was another lucky factor, helping the gas dissipate easily once the leak was stopped.

After the scare ended, it was business as usual for the other stores, but Jack-in-the-Box remained closed until 1:30 p.m.

Seventeen attorneys competing for judgeship

Area lawyers enter election for single 3rd Circuit seat

By Dennis Grubaugh
Staff writer

Seventeen attorneys have thrown their hats in the ring for the next available associate judgeship in the 3rd Judicial Circuit.

They have applied for a position that will come open at year's end with the retirement of Wendell Durr of Edwardsville.

The winning candidate must get the vote of at least five of the nine circuit judges, otherwise a runoff election is necessary.

The candidates are:

- * Mary Margaret Albert-Fritz of Godfrey, a sole practitioner in Brighton.
- * Larry Alan Calvo, a lawyer and resident of Granite City.
- * Thomas William Chapman, a lawyer and resident of Granite City.
- * John Philip Geismann, who lives and works in Highland.
- * Allen Fletcher Giliard Jr., of Madison, an attorney in Edwardsville.
- * Susan P. Grammer, of Edwardsville, an attorney in East Alton.
- * Rand S. Hale, a lawyer in East Alton.
- * John Craig Haynes, of Glen Carbon, a lawyer in Edwardsville.
- * David Alan Hylla, of Granite City, a lawyer in East Alton.
- * Mary Lloyd Lowe, who lives and works in Springfield.

- * Amy Maher, of Troy, an assistant for Madison County state's attorney.
- * Douglas Marti, an attorney and resident of Greenville.
- * Ralph J. Mendelsohn, of Glen Carbon, an assistant public defender and private practice attorney in Godfrey.
- * Douglas B. McKeehan, of St. Louis, a sole practitioner in Granite City.
- * Rodney J. Pitts, of Alton, who has a practice in Wood River.
- * Edwin Lee Potter, an attorney and resident of Highland.
- * Greg E. Roosevelt, of Glen Carbon, an attorney in Edwardsville.

Some of the applicants, like Albert-Fritz, are first-time challengers. Others, including Grammer, Hale, Maher, Mendelsohn and Pitts, have run several times.

Chapman, the son of 5th District Appellate Judge Charles Chapman, was viewed by courthouse observers as a strong candidate during the early balloting to fill the spot vacated by Associate Judge Michael Meehan. The job instead went to Clarence Harrison II of Collinsville.

Ballots should be received this week from the Illinois Administrative Office of the Courts, a division of the State Supreme Court, according to a spokeswoman for Chief Judge Andy Matossian. Once they are received, the ballots must be filled out and returned within 14 days.

Kids-N-Art 2000 scheduled to begin in November

Workshop series will be hosted by various libraries throughout the area

By Scott Cousins
Staff writer

A series of one-hour arts workshops will give children in Madison and St. Clair counties hands-on experience in a variety of activities ranging from watercolor to photography.

The workshops, the Kids-N-Art 2000, will be held at various libraries throughout the area.

The workshops are scheduled from 5 to 6 p.m. once a month from November to June, but not in December. The workshop series is sponsored by the Madison County Arts Council, the Illinois Arts Council, Ameritech, Target and Shell Oil.

"It's basically to acquaint kids at this young age with various techniques of art," MCAC Board member Jared

"We think that anything that tests the artistic ability of a child will make them better students."

Jared Hennings
MCAC Board member

Hennings said. "By offering such a wide range, hopefully something will catch fire with them."

The workshops will cover

areas including watercolor, cartooning, sandpaper, pointillism, hand-colored black and white photography and three-dimensional art.

Hennings said that by giving students a chance to be creative, it might help them in other areas.

"We think that anything that tests the artistic ability of a child will make them better students," he said. Participating libraries include:

- Granite City Branch Library, second Tuesday, 2144 Johnson Road, 622-6244.
- Edwardsville Public Library, second Wednesday, 112 S. Kansas, 692-7556.
- Fairview Heights Public

Library, third Wednesday, 19017 Bunkum Road, 398-6586.

Columbia Public Library, fourth Wednesday, 108 N. Metter, 284-4237.

Belleville Public Library, first Thursday, 121 E. Washington, 234-0441.

O'Fallon Public Library, second Thursday, 120 Civic Plaza, 632-3783.

Collinsville Public Library, third Friday, 403 W. Main, 344-1112.

The cost is \$30 per child for a seven-session workshop. If a family joins MCAC, they can attend two workshops free.

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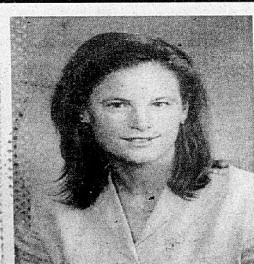
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Felonies

The following felonies were recently filed in the Third Circuit Court in Madison County:

Willie Miles, 29, was charged with aggravated battery for an incident Oct. 29 by the Madison County Sheriff's Department. Miles allegedly used a deadly weapon, a bludgeon, to hit a man. Bond was set at \$20,000.

Douglas Smith, 29, was charged with unlawful possession of a controlled substance for an incident Oct. 28 by the Collinsville Police Department. Smith allegedly had less than 15 grams of a substance containing cocaine. His bond was set at \$15,000.

Tamara Sue Marsala, 35, Kevin M. Reader, 27, and Robert G. Foster, 46, were charged with unlawful possession of a controlled substance for an incident

Oct. 29 by the Collinsville Police Department. The three had less than 15 grams of a substance containing cocaine. Bond for each of the three was set at \$15,000.

Heather L. Craig, 19, was charged with unlawful possession of a Person with Disability Parking Decal for an incident Oct. 22 by the SIUE Police Department. Craig allegedly knowingly possessed the decal without authority. Her bond was set at \$15,000.

Juanita J. Moore, 19, was charged with unlawful altering of a temporary registration permit for an incident Oct. 27 by the SIUE Police Department. Moore allegedly altered a temporary registration permit for a 1989 Ford Escort. Her bond was set at \$10,000.

Stacey T. Samuels, 20, was charged with aggravated discharge of a firearm for an incident Oct. 16 by the Venice Police Department. Samuels allegedly discharged a handgun toward a motor vehicle knowing that it was occupied by three individuals. His bond was set at \$75,000.

Charlie Edwards, 55, was charged with criminal sexual assault for an incident Oct. 23 by the Venice Police Department. Edwards allegedly committed an act of sexual penetration by use of force on a woman. His bond was set at \$100,000.

Jeffrey T. Weeks, 27, was charged with criminal damage to property over \$300 for an incident Oct. 26 by the Collinsville Police Department. Weeks allegedly damaged a 1998 Jeep Cherokee without the consent of the owner. His bond was set at \$20,000.

Isadore Grant, 29, was charged with three counts of forgery for an incident Aug. 5 by the Collinsville Police Department. Grant allegedly tried to pass three forged checks worth

\$1,357.48 at Shop-N-Save in Collinsville. His bond was set at \$50,000.

James B. Ponder, 34, was charged with unlawful possession of a controlled substance for an incident June 10 by the Madison Police Department. Ponder allegedly possessed less than 15 grams of a substance containing cocaine. His bond was set at \$15,000.

Vickie D. Francis, 37, was charged with unlawful possession of a controlled substance for an incident June 8 by the Madison Police Department. Francis allegedly possessed less than 15 grams of a substance containing cocaine. Her bond was set at \$15,000.

Cindy M. Granger, 38, was charged with unlawful possession of a controlled substance for an incident July 13 by the Madison Police Department. Granger allegedly possessed less than 15 grams of a substance containing cocaine. His bond was set at \$15,000.

Thomas M. Embrich, 44, was charged with unlawful use of weapons for an incident Oct. 26 by the Madison County Sheriff's Department. Embrich allegedly carried a loaded 9mm High Point handgun in his motor vehicle while not on his own property. His bond was set at \$15,000.

Arthur D. Oberle, 57, was charged with aggravated criminal sexual abuse for incidents from January, 1992 to June, 1995 by the Granite City Police Department. Oberle allegedly committed an act of sexual conduct while he was over the age of 17 on a female under the age of 13, for the purpose of sexual gratification. His bond was set at \$75,000.

Man arrested after courthouse clash

Walter Alford of Madison attacks wife's attorney in county courtroom

By Dennis Grubaugh
Staff writer

A Madison County judge's panic button prevented

potential harm Thursday morning when a bitter divorce case erupted into a clash between a man and his wife's attorney.

Walter Alford, 55, of Madison, faces multiple charges after the run-in with attorney Barbara Sherer of Edwardsville in a second-floor courtroom at the Madison County Courthouse.

A report from the Madison County Sheriff's

"Most of the time, the client will listen to his attorney. Most of the time, the attorney can calm him down."

Don Briddick
Chief of courthouse security

Department indicates that Alford was in the courtroom with his attorney, Victoria Vasileff of Granite City, and Sherer, talking about money issues involved in the pending divorce from his wife, Irene, who was not present. Suddenly, Alford stood up and pointed at Sherer and said, "Lady, I have about had it with you," and "I am

going to get you," the report said.

He then advanced on Sherer, backing her into a wall with his fist in her face. Sherer told Deputy Ray Botterbush that she turned and ran behind the judge's bench and out the back of the courtroom. She ended up in the nearby chambers of Associate Judge Barbara Crowder, who activated a panic button signaling courthouse security.

Crowder was scheduled to hear the case but was not present during the courtroom exchange.

Alford did not follow Sherer out of the courtroom, heeding his attorney's pleas to go out into the hallway outside the courtroom, the report said.

"The blank look that Alford had that would make you think he was dangerous went away after Barb had left the room," Vasileff told the deputy.

Alford still was upset and struggled with Botterbush as he was being detained. He eventually was charged with resisting arrest, obstructing a police officer and aggravated assault, a report said.

Don Briddick, chief of courthouse security, said there are panic buttons for 48 response points in the courthouse that were installed last year. Deputies have been required to respond to serious situations only a few times.

"Most of the time, the client will listen to his attorney. Most of the time, the attorney can calm him down," Briddick said.

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Letters to the Editor

Journal Newspapers, Attn: Letters,
1815 Delmar, Granite City, IL 62040

Hepatitis outbreak shows wisdom of simple practice

The recent rash of Hepatitis A cases in the metropolitan St. Louis area clearly demonstrates that a key rule of childhood etiquette is being ignored.

Wash your hands in the bathroom. It's rude to show up at the dinner table with dirty hands. Unfortunately, the consequences are more serious when the people with the dirty hands are the ones who prepared the food.

People can get sick. Luckily, the complications from this week's case in Granite City, a previous one in Caseyville and three others in St. Louis have been minimal. That's to the credit of both restaurant and health department staff.

Health officials, who have acted quickly to provide immune globulin injections, say the most effective way to prevent the spread of the virus is to wash the hands thoroughly after using the bathroom. That's not good manners. It's common sense.

This is particularly true when the next thing you touch will become part of someone else's lunch or dinner. As a precaution, Missouri health officials are requiring the use of plastic gloves by food handlers. It's a requirement that could not only stave off Hepatitis cases but might minimize the power of cold and flu bugs so prevalent this time of year. Illinois officials should consider similar action.

Clipper incident complicated

One thing needs to be made clear right from the start: If you or I tried to enter the Federal Court House in East St. Louis with the same "nail clipper" a 7-year-old student took to school in Cahokia we would not get in the door.

On the so-called "nail clipper" wouldn't be confiscated and the person carrying it wouldn't be arrested. But the federal marshals would firmly explain the "nail clipper" would have to be left outside. Another thing that needs to be made clear is the 7-year-old Cahokia student, while he apparently did not threaten anyone or brandish his "nail clipper," apparently made it clear he knew of the "nail clipper's" potential as a weapon.

Perfectly clear is the Cahokia School District's zero-tolerance policy toward weapons in school, a policy based on Illinois law, calling for expulsion from school for one to two years.

What remains murky, and likely will remain murky, is the meaning of the decision of the hearing officer following the hearing mandated by the disciplinary policy.

The child's parent argued the incident was a symptom indicating the child suffers from a learning or behavioral disorder and therefore falls under the federal special education rules governing students with learning or behavioral disabilities and the so-called "nail clipper" does not meet the federal criteria for weapons and, in addition, federal policy called for suspension rather than expulsion.

The Cahokia School District did not dispute this argument. Once the special education issue was raised, the district decided the game had moved to the federal government's court where it would be played by federal rules unless and until an evaluation of the student's needs changes that assessment.

Following the hearing the child returned to school. The child has begun the process of being evaluated for special education needs. Until it is completed, the child will be allowed to remain in his regular classroom. Even though the child's parent declined tutoring during the time he was out of school, the district has arranged makeup time for the missed schoolwork.

The Cahokia School District proved it is willing to bend over backwards to look out for the interests of one of its students. Well it should be.

In a post-Columbine world, however, one must wonder whether the interests of the 5,989 or so other students in Cahokia are getting the same strong protection from the federal special education rules. Whispered in public, and sometimes shouted behind closed doors are school administrators' and teachers' horror stories of students who have "beaten" the zero-tolerance policies in school by contending the drug use is symptomatic of a learning or behavior disorder under the federal rules and therefore not a disciplinary issue.

It doesn't take great imagination to see the possibility of the same thing happening in the case of weapons. As much as one wants every child with a problem to receive the help he or she needs, someday, somewhere, there will be a child who is not ill, but just flat-out bad, and who needs, not treatment, but punishment.

When that child comes along, do we really want him or her staying in class with our sons and daughters because "some issues must be resolved before any final action" concerning his or her punishment?

Legislation would help hospitals

By U.S. Sen. Dick Durbin

In late September, I visited the emergency ward/trauma unit at OSF Saint Francis Medical Center in Peoria. OSF is the largest medical center in downstate Illinois and serves as the teaching hospital for the University of Illinois College of Medicine at Peoria.

During that visit, one of the pediatric intensive care unit nurses told me how important medical residents are to modern emergency medicine. She recalled that one recent night while she was on duty, there were severe cardiac incidents occurred at the same time in the emergency room. She said without the medical residents, the emergency staff might not have been able to treat — much less save — these three ER patients.

Peoria is a long way from Washington, D.C., but emergency room services at OSF Saint Francis and all across Illinois may be directly affected by a law Congress passed known as the Balanced Budget Act of 1997.

The BBA sought to preserve and strengthen the Medicare program by making it more efficient and expanding some preventive health benefits for seniors. The good news is the life of the Medicare Trust Fund has been extended until 2015. But some of the law's cuts have been unacceptably harsh. The cuts originally were estimated to produce \$112 billion in Medicare savings over five years, but the Congressional Budget Office now estimates that Medicare spending will decline by \$206 billion.

Hospitals all across America are in danger of closing if some of these cuts are not lessened. That's why I have introduced legislation, "The Health Care Preservation Act," which provides targeted relief to those

providers hit the hardest so that they can continue to provide quality health care. My legislation S. 1582, would restore an estimated \$16 billion to hospitals and other providers by freezing some of the cuts. I have outlined below how my legislation would help different health care providers.

America's teaching hospitals have been hit hard by the Medicare cuts in the BBA. Teaching hospitals like OSF Saint Francis provide high-quality medical care and often serve the most medically challenging patients. They train the nation's future doctors and provide a significant amount of charity care. My bill would restore funding for these two functions of teaching hospitals.

Because rural hospitals generally are more dependent on Medicare than urban providers, the cuts have had a disproportionate effect on rural areas. S. 1582 helps prevent large losses for rural hospitals by setting a floor on outpatient hospital payments so they do not fall below 1999 levels and establishes a new payment system for rural health centers.

Safety net providers, including community health centers, provide care to underserved populations in both rural and inner city areas, including millions of Americans lacking health insurance.

S. 1582 revises the community health centers payment system so it more adequately covers their costs and directly compensates providers for services to low-income Americans.

The BBA saved money by arbitrarily limiting rehabilitation services for the sickest beneficiaries. More than 25 percent of Medicare patients receiving rehabilitation

services will reach a cap of \$1,500 and not receive adequate treatment this year. S. 1582 eliminates this cap and replaces it with a payment system based on the severity of illness.

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Office of Inspector General recently completed a study on the early effects of the new payment system for skilled nursing services on beneficiary access to care. This study indicates that patients with special needs are having difficulty accessing skilled nursing care due to the change in the payment system. S. 1582 increases reimbursement for those patients to more accurately reflect the cost of their care.

S. 1582 also helps seniors and persons with disabilities who suddenly have been dumped by Medicare + Choice plans and left without adequate health insurance, giving them more opportunities to re-enroll in a Medicare policy of their choosing or to change to another Medicare HMO plan. It also prohibits Medicare insurers from increasing premiums for seniors just because they've grown older, a practice that leaves many seniors unable to afford the rising premiums just when they most need it.

No Medicare revisions would be complete without working to reduce the billions of Medicare dollars lost every year to fraud and abuse. S. 1582 includes fraud prevention measures introduced earlier in this Congress by Senators Collins, Grassley and me.

The 1997 budget cuts were intended to strengthen Medicare, not weaken our hospitals. Congress should not adjourn until we have taken steps to preserve access to health care facilities.

Opinions



Letters to the editor

Nameoki and Chouteau Townships should be left alone

TO THE EDITOR:
This is an open letter to Granite City Mayor Ron Selph.

When will you get the picture? People don't want to live in Granite City. But that does not give you the right to just keep taking them. You quoted the media in a paper last year saying, "Granite City doesn't practice forced annexations." But yet, look at what happened. More innocent people sucked into your city's immoral ways of politics.

What happened to democracy, Ron, and the voice of America's people? Have you forgotten what country you live in? This is not what our forefathers had intended. It is what they fought against. The war against you and your peers to save your homes is far from over. Eventually, justice will prevail, and the rights of people in Nameoki and Chouteau Township will be recognized and counted.

R. T. STAICOFF
Mitchell

Domestic violence cycle continues

TO THE EDITOR:
October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month, and I have noticed recent articles relating to this topic in

the daily and weekly papers. I read the article titled "Anti-violence group awarded \$250,000" by your Belleville staff writer Christopher England in the Oct. 20 edition and feel that it is money well spent. Why do I so strongly agree? Because I am a survivor of domestic violence.

My daughter and I lived in a local women's shelter for three months to escape physical and mental abuse. I broke the cycle of domestic violence and escaped with my life. Unfortunately, many abused women, children and men will not.

According to FBI data, four women a day are murdered by a male partner. Up to six million women are believed to be beaten in their homes each year. Four million incidents are reported.

The National Coalition Against Domestic Violence estimates that up to 90 percent of battered women never report their abuse. (Source: The Domestic Violence Sourcebook, by Dawn Bradley Berry, Lowell House, 1999.)

Financial assistance is great, and emergency assistance is certainly needed, but money alone will not solve the problem. The public must overcome its fear of "getting involved" when they observe obvious signs of domestic abuse. I have written this letter and the accompanying poem, "Silent Tears," for all the women who, like me, were physically and mentally abused, or

are still trapped in that "private hell."

Society - hear the silent cries! Don't turn a deaf ear. Get involved in the fight against domestic violence!

SILENT TEARS
Can anyone hear my silent tears?
I hide them very well.
Can you see?
What he has done to me?
He controls my private hell.

Can anyone hear my silent tears?
I cry, someone help me please.
How long can I last?
God, send someone fast.
Help my pain to cease.

Can anyone hear my silent tears?
My flesh has turned to blue.
You walk away.
Have nothing to say.
What if this had happened to you?

Can anyone hear my silent tears?
I found the courage to break away.
You say I'm to blame,
I have to wear the shame.
He's the one that should have to pay.

Can anyone hear the silent tears?
Can you hear the others cry?
Please don't hear,
Then walk away.
Don't turn a blinded eye.

Can you hear their silent tears?
Hidden, but wanting to be found.
Please hurry,

Believe them, help them, shelter them.
While they're still around.

The cycle turns.
The abuse revolves.
So many women dead.
The only tears that will be heard,
Are those shed when they're dead.

DEBBY (last name withheld)
Cahokia

Support VFW poppy sales

TO THE EDITOR:
On Nov. 5 and 6, the members of VFW Post 5691 and its Ladies Auxiliary of Collinsville will offer poppies for sale to the general public. They will be located at various locations around the city of Collinsville.

All proceeds from the sale go to help needy veterans and their families. The money cannot be used for any other purpose as this would be a violation of the laws of the national organization.

We all have read about the national budget process where it seems that any cuts come first to veteran benefits so the sale of poppies nationwide is a big help to needy veterans and their families. By the way, veterans do make these poppies so please buy and proudly wear a poppy.

JOSEPH BERG
State of Illinois public relations director for the Veterans of Foreign Wars

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News

Conference focuses on elder abuse

By Dennis Grubaugh
Staff writer

During the fiscal year that ended in June, 7,000 cases of elder abuse and neglect had been reported to the Illinois Department on Aging. This year should top that number by another 1,000.

Sadly, 60 percent of the cases are substantiated, said Kathleen Quinn, head of the department's Bureau of Elder Rights.

One of the biggest problems of an aging society was on full display Thursday during a daylong conference on elder abuse at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville.

Quinn was the keynote speaker. In the afternoon, a panel of legal, health, educational and investigative sources addressed issues ranging from new laws to rights of the elderly to reporting suspected abuse.

Elder abuse is not a new concern, but it is a growing one. The typical victim is a 78-year-old woman with multiple impairments. She typically will be abused by an adult child with substance abuse and financial prob-

lems. Seventy-five percent of the victims are female; 54 percent of the abusers are male.

But as everyone involved in the forum could attest, the story is more than statistics. "Elderly people are being abused by the scores in this state," said Margarette Trushel, director of the Oasis Women's Center, a domestic violence shelter in Alton. "We need to address this growing problem in Madison County, legally, socially, religiously - in any way that we can."

Particularly touching for the group was a real-life video presentation about a 77-year-old man who was beaten on a regular basis by an adult son who lived with him. The older man would leave but would end up returning to the abusive environment because of loneliness.

Eventually, state authorities were able to get him placed under court-appointed guardianship, but only after he was hospitalized with a broken hip. He subsequently suffered a stroke and was placed in a nursing home.

The audience members, comprised mainly of people who work in fields where elder abuse is an issue, nodded their heads while listening to the tales.

The Family Violence Coordinating Council of the 3rd Judicial Circuit Court sponsored the event.

Associate Judge Lola Maddox led the speakers' panel, which included Anthony Traxler, SIUE gerontology professor; Dr. Paula Sigmund, executive director of Archway Substance Center in St. Louis; Sgt. Terry Lane of the Alton Police Department; attorneys Chris Bauer and Leonard Berg, and Robin Pritt, elder abuse case manager for the Family & Community Services agency in Alton.

Pritt's agency investigates elder abuse reports in Madison, Bond and Clinton counties under contract with the state Department on Aging. Last year, there were 166 such reports.

People concerned about cases of abuse can make confidential calls to the state's hotline, (800) 253-8966.

Lane said the law has been amended in recent years to abusing a person 60-years-old or older is no longer is misdemeanor battery, but felony aggravated battery.

He and other panelists agreed that police, courts and related agencies are working together on these cases better now than at any time in the past.

Audience members were advised to be precise in recording the details of suspected abuse.

"For you in the field, the most important thing to know is document, document, document," Berg said.

Frequently, those facts can be used in court when an elderly person does not want to press charges - which happens a lot. Such cases are referred to as victimless prosecution.

"Admission of hearsay is not always possible, but be aware of details, and let the lawyers and judges sort it out," Berg said.

The budget was balanced after the Madison County Board Finance Committee Chairman Bill Little said.

The rate for all of county government, including the general fund and special tax funds, may go from 86 cents per \$100 of assessed valuation to 81 cents.

Workers dig their way out of county jail

By Sanford J. Schmidt
Staff writer

Sheriff Bob Churchich is singing the praises of a

group of people who dug their way out of the Madison County Jail last week.

The group happens to be made up of county workers doing what they were paid to do. The workers used jack hammers, shovels and picks to dig down and clean up a broken sewer line that caused sewage to back up into the jail Oct. 19.

Inmates in the Sheriff's Work Alternative Program also assisted in the cleanup. The smelly sewage backed up into the cell-blocks, main hallway and the jail kitchen after the 22-year-old line collapsed.

The kitchen was closed, and inmates were transferred to other cellblocks. Local police agencies were asked to keep

prisoners in the local lock-ups unless absolutely necessary.

The repair job required a large hole to be dug through a hallway floor to the collapsed line, and the line was repaired, tested and put back into operation by Friday.

"Those guys did a heck of a job," Chief Deputy Robert Hertz said.

Hertz said Marty Siglock, director of buildings, lands and support services, and his staff earned their salaries last week.

"You and your fine staff have once again bailed me and my jail staff out of a jam, and I want you to know that I sincerely appreciate all of your time and efforts," Churchich said in a letter to Siglock.

Hertz said the situation was back to normal on Monday. The Alton jail was not among those that become crowded during the emergency.

County board to vote on budget

Balanced budget is likely to result in 5-cent decline in tax rate

By Sanford J. Schmidt
Staff writer

The Madison County Board is scheduled to vote Nov. 17 on a balanced budget.

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et that is likely to result in a 5-cent decline in the county tax rate.

"I'm certain there will be a reduction in our tax rate," Finance Committee Chairman Bill Little said.

The rate for all of county government, including the general fund and special tax funds, may go from 86 cents per \$100 of assessed valuation to 81 cents.

While county officials note that not everyone's total tax bill will go down, the rate, as far as the county government portion, will go down, primarily because of a reduction in the nursing home tax.

"I think it's a livable budget," Auditor Jack Frandsen said. "They ought to get more dumb farmers to work on it."

Frandsen was making a joking reference to the fact that his predecessor, Fred Bathon, said Frandsen was not qualified for the post, which involves helping prepare the annual budget.

The total proposed budget is about \$92.9 million, up about \$3.8 million from the previous budget. About \$1.2

million will go for raises and other benefits already agreed to.

The budget was balanced after the Madison County Board Finance Committee Chairman Bill Little said.

"I'm certain there will be a reduction in our tax rate."

Bill Little
Finance Committee Chairman

ments. At least for this year, department heads will not be allowed to carry over unspent funds, which was encouraging them to save money from each year's budgets to carry over to the next, thereby increasing their department budgets each year.

The committee also adopted a stance that no new staff positions or programs will be added for the new budget, which is effective beginning Dec. 1.

Alan Dunstan of the Finance Committee said the budget picture is not as bleak as it may seem. The county may have as much as \$4.4 million left over from the current fiscal year, which ends Nov. 30.

The county also has a \$14.3 million fund balance, which represents about four months' spending. The fund balance is about right for a conservative operation, he said.

However, if department heads submit spending proposals are allowed to put leftover funds into the budget for the following year, and that amount is spent, the county would be dipping into its savings.

The fund balances now available are because of a program that allows depart-

"I think it's a livable budget. They ought to get more dumb farmers to work on it."

Jack Frandsen
Auditor

ment heads to carry funds over from one year to the next.

"It's a good program," he said.

Without the carry-over policy, department heads are encouraged to spend all their budgets, whether they need it or not, to make sure the budget is not cut the following year.

"You would see a lot of UPS packages showing up at the door toward the end of the year," Sheriff Bob Churchich said.





However, he said forcing his department or any other department to put the carry-over money aside, rather than put it in the succeeding budget, would discourage the savings for which the policy was intended.


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News

Rev. Mank appointed pastor of St. Ambrose

By Angela Mueller
Staff writer

A college of consultants recently appointed the Rev. Virgil W. Mank, pastor of St. Ambrose Parish, as administrator of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Springfield until the installation of the diocese's new bishop.

Mank, known for work in parishes in Glen Carbon, Collinsville and Benld, among others, will oversee the day-to-day operation of the Springfield Diocese until Dec. 14, when Monsignor George J. Lucas of the Archdiocese of St. Louis will be installed as the diocese's new bishop. The Springfield Diocese includes 169 parishes in 28 counties in central Illinois.

The diocese's college of consultants, an advisory body of priests, appointed Mank last week. He took immediate possession of the administrator position

upon making a profession of faith before the college.

"I was happy to be charged with the responsibility," Mank said. "I am confident it can be done with the support of a lot of people and the grace of God."

Former Bishop Daniel L. Ryan announced Oct. 19 his decision to leave his position as the overseer of the diocese. Pope John Paul II accepted Ryan's resignation and named Lucas, rector of the Kendrick-Glenon Seminary of St. Louis, as his successor.

Lucas will be ordained as the diocese's bishop in a special liturgy Dec. 14 at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Springfield.

"I'll be overseeing the operation of the diocese until Lucas takes over," Mank said. "I'll also be exercising some sacramental duties, such as confirmations, dedications of buildings or celebrations at parishes."

Mank's office will be headquartered in Springfield during his tenure as administrator. During his absence from

Godfrey, the Rev. Tom Meyer, parochial vicar of St. Anthony's in Effingham, will serve as pastor of St. Ambrose.

Mank has been pastor of St. Ambrose since 1968. He also has served since 1987 as dean of the Alton Deanery, which includes the 29 parishes in Madison and Bond counties.

"I will continue in that role while serving as administrator," Mank said.

Mank was ordained on May 22, 1965. He has served as assistant pastor at St. Agnes in Springfield, St. Elizabeth in Granite City, and St. Charles Borromeo in Charleston, and was Newman chaplain at Eastern Illinois University.

He served as associate pastor at St. Peter and Paul in Collinsville and co-administrator at St. Mary's in Taylorville, and St. Rita's in Kinkaid. He has served as pastor of St. Mary of the Assumption in Ste. Marie, at St. Valentine in Benld, and at St. Cecilia in Glen Carbon.

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Students get experience in building trades

Clark eighth-graders attend Construction Industry Career Expo at Gateway Center

By Deborah L. Bates
Staff writer

Eighth-graders received hands-on experience and a lot of encouragement from building trades unions at a career exposition Tuesday and Wednesday at the Gateway Center.

The Construction Industry Career Expo was the first conducted by eight building and construction trades unions affiliated with the Southern Illinois Construction Advancement Program. The career day was designed to encourage the boys and girls to consider careers in construction or crafts.

"I wish they had this when I was a kid," said Brian Villhard, representing Operating Plasterers and Cement Masons Local 90. "I didn't know what a concrete finisher was when I started out. I'm very glad to be involved. This is a great way to get kids motivated."

Carpenters, cement masons, electricians, ironworkers, laborers, operating engineers, plumbers and sheet metal workers were represented.

Tim Garvey, director of the Southern Illinois Construction Advancement Program, coordinated the event. The group is a non-profit building industry fund that uses contributions from unions to promote safety in industry.

Each union set up a booth to show the youngsters the tricks of its trade. The pupils smoothed cement, turned on a traffic signal and connected pipes used in plumbing.

"It's hard to get the kids away," said Tadas Kicieliński Sr., executive secretary of the Southwestern Illinois Building and Construction Trades Council.

The union workers talked about the kids of work they do, emphasizing the type and amount of education that is required for each of the vocations.

"You need very good math skills to be in these trades," Kicieliński said. The pupils who attended the expo were from 23 schools in Madison and St. Clair counties.

"The kids are loving it," said Cheryl Hood, system director with the St. Clair County and Belleville Area College Regional Vocational System. Hood and Jim Evislizer, a systems director with the Madison County Regional Delivery for Vocational Education, contacted the schools and arranged for the pupils to attend the event.

"The guys have done a very, very good job with working hands-on with these kids," Evislizer said. They convinced Brenda Cooper, 18, from Clark Middle School in East St. Louis.

"I wanted to be a school teacher," she said. But after visiting the electrician's booth, she said she has changed her mind.

"It pays well," she said about a career as an electrician. She said the workers told her that students need to know a lot of science and math, which Cooper said are

her favorite subjects.

Betty Ward, the eighth-grade counselor at Clark Middle School, said her pupils enjoyed the expo. She brought 20 who participate in an after-school program that teaches them about different careers.

"They seem interested, and they're really digging in," Ward said. "We cover the surface, and now they get to see the details. They really liked that it was hands-on."

Ward said she would like to have brought more pupils but there was limited space for the event.

Next year, however,

Garvey and Kicieliński said they would like to expand the event to include more unions and allow for more youngsters to attend. He also would like to have another career expo farther south.

"What this really represents is a coming together of trades that are represented," Garvey said. "They are the ones who deserve credit."

Each union donated \$500 to cover the costs of the event.

Unions that participated were: Operating Plasterers and Cement Masons Local 90, Operating Engineers Local 520, Sheet Metal

Workers Local 268, Iron Workers Local 392, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 309, Plumbers and Gas Fitters Local 380, Plumbers and Pipe Fitters Local 101, Carpenters and Joiners Local 1310 and the Illinois Laborers' and Contractors' Joint Apprenticeship and Training Program.

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News

Obituaries

Frances Barclay

FRANCES (OWENS) BARCLAY, 88, of Naperville, formerly of Granite City, died Wednesday, Oct. 27, 1999, in Naperville. She was born in Franks Point, Miss.

Mrs. Barclay retired from Whitehaven Presbyterian Church in Memphis where she worked as a secretary. She was an elder at First Presbyterian Church in Granite City. She attended Hutchison School and Rhodes College in Memphis and was a member of Chi Omega Sorority.

Survivors include a son, Robert Lee Barclay of Naperville; a daughter, Roy Ford, Lake of Brielle, N.J.; six grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Frank Barclay, in 1991.

Private services were held Saturday in Memphis.

Richard Clements Jr.

RICHARD C. CLEMENTS JR., 51, of Waterloo, died Friday, Oct. 29, 1999, at St. Clemente Hospital in Rock Bud.

He was born Feb. 9, 1948, in Omaha, Neb.

He is survived by his wife, Kay (Lennings) Clements. Other survivors include daughter, Angela Conley of Chester, Ind.; a son, Tom Clements of Columbia, a granddaughter, Caitlyn Conley, and one brother, Dave Clements of Omaha, Neb.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Richard Sr. and Jane (Pawloski) Clements, and a daughter, Kristina Clements.

Funeral services will be 1 p.m. Sunday at Quernem Funeral Home in Waterloo with the Rev. Jeff Groene officiating.

Burial will be in Forest Lawn Cemetery in Omaha, Neb.

Memorials may be made to Kristina Clements Memorial Fund.

Kenneth Cowan Sr.

KENNETH L. "SONNY" COWAN SR., 70, of Fort Myers, Fla., formerly of Granite City, died at 9:09 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 16, 1999.

Mr. Cowan was born Sept. 1, 1929, in Granite City where he resided until June 1988. He retired from Union Electric as a senior chemist and was an officer of Union Local 148 Operating Engineers. He was a member of St. John Lutheran Church and a life member of VFW Post 13700, both of Granite City. Mr. Cowan was a veteran of the U.S.

Navy and Air Force.

He married the former Mary Ann Papp in January 1953 at St. John Lutheran Church in Granite City. She survives.

Other survivors include two daughters, Kim Cowan-Collins and Katrie Dillon, both of Naples, Fla.; a son, Kenneth Cowan Jr. of Fort Myers Beach, Fla.; several brothers and sisters and their spouses, Doris Seibold and Josie and Rudy Dick of Edwardsville, Stuart and Alma Jean Cowan, Robert and Yolanda Cowan, Maurice Cowan, Thomas and Nadine Papp and Esther and Mike Devine, all of Granite City, Mickey and Dick Grace and Shirley Lawless, all of St. Louis, and Danny Papp of Las Vegas; four grandchildren, Marc Novosel and Nancy Cowan, both of Edwardsville, Heather Ackerman of Billburg, Germany, and Nadine Cowan of Collinsville, and one great-grandchild, Hunter Ackerman of Billburg, Germany.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Raymond and Margaret (Stuart) Cowan; his son, John Raymond Cowan, who died in 1990; and a brother, Sherwood Cowan.

A graveside memorial is planned for 11 a.m. Nov. 6 at Sunset Hill Memorial Estates in Edwardsville. Following the service, the family will greet friends at Union Local 148 Operating Engineers Hall, 148 Wilma Drive, Maryville.

Memorials to the American Heart Association are suggested.

Gerald Dickman

GERALD F. DICKMAN, 65, of Troy, died at 6:58 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 27, 1999, at Anderson Hospital in Maryville. He was born May 12, 1934, in Mitchell and was a lifelong area resident.

Mr. Dickman had retired from Troy Truck Centers Inc., where he had worked in customer service and delivery. He was a member of Mother of Perpetual Help Catholic Church in Maryville.

He married the former Darlene Dankenbring on May 4, 1957; she survives.

Other survivors include three sons, Terry Dickman of Alhambra, Dan Dickman of St. Jacob, and Randy Dickman of Glen Carbon; a daughter, Lynn Rensperger of Highland; two brothers, Roger Dickman of Hawaii, and Dennis Dickman of Collinsville; a sister, Beatrice Clayton of Maryville; 11 grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Leonard and Frances

(Zajack) Dickman.

Services were Saturday at Mother of Perpetual Help Church. Burial was in Keystone Cemetery, St. Jacob.

Memorials in the form of Masses are suggested.

Elaine Evans

ELAINE FRANCIS (BUNKER) EVANS, 46, of Granite City, died at 7:45 a.m. Friday, Oct. 28, 1999, in Granite City. She was born Dec. 1, 1952, in Granite City.

Mrs. Evans was a homemaker and a member of Grace Baptist Church.

Survivors include her husband, Michael Evans; her mother, Ruth E. (Reisinger) Bunker; a son, Thomas Evans of Granite City; two sisters, Evonne Bunker and Linda Hurry, both of Granite City, and a brother, George Bunker of Pontoon Beach.

She was preceded in death by her father, Orle Bunker Sr.; a brother, Orle Bunker Jr.; and a sister, Mary Beth Bunker.

There was no visitation. A memorial service will be at 11 a.m. Monday at Grace Baptist Church with the Rev. John Gambin officiating. Irwin Chapel in Granite City handled arrangements.

Memorials to the American Cancer Society or Madison County Hospice are suggested.

Marlen Evans

MARLEN J. EVANS, 46, of Collinsville, died at 2:55 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 28, 1999, at Anderson Hospital in Maryville.

She was born May 7, 1953, in Granite City where he lived until 1987. Mr. Evans was a disabled U.S. Army veteran. He was of the Baptist faith.

Survivors include his wife, Patty (McMurray) Evans; two sons, Wesley M. Evans of Granite City, and a brother, Kevin Evans of El Paso, Texas.

He was preceded in death by his parents, James W. and Bernice (Marlen) Evans, and a sister, Ann Porter.

Visitation is from 5 to 8 p.m. Sunday at Thomas Memorial Mortuary in Granite City. Services will be at 10 a.m. Monday at the funeral home with the Rev. Phil Walker officiating. Burial will be in Lake View Memorial Gardens.

Fairview Heights.

Frances Jones

FRANCES (LAUB) JONES, 92, of Granite City, died at 7:45 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 27, 1999, at Madison County Nursing Home in Edwardsville.

She was born March 18, 1907, in Granite City. Mrs. Jones was a cook for Granite City School District. She was a Protestant and a member of the Senior Citizens Association.

She is survived by many nephews and nieces.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Frank and Johanna Laub; two brothers, Joseph and Frank Laub; and two sisters, Anna Moran and Antoinette Lynch.

Funeral services were Friday at Davis Funeral Home in Granite City. Burial was in St. John Cemetery in Granite City.

Memorials may be made to Hospice of Madison County c/o St. Elizabeth Medical Center.

Mary Nemeth

MARY K. (SARICH) NEMETH, 85, of Granite City, died at 9:45 a.m. Thursday, Oct. 28, 1999, at St. Elizabeth Medical Center in Granite City. She was born July 29, 1913, in Madison and was a lifelong area resident.

Mrs. Nemeth worked for many years as a meat cutter at the Swift Packing Co. She was a member of St. Elizabeth Catholic Church.

Survivors include a son, John Nemeth of Granite City; two daughters, Elaine Gresh of Collinsville, and Janet Fineshrider of Granite City; six grandchildren, Mark Fineshrider, Michael Fineshrider, Laura Gresh, Lori McGovern, Greg Nemeth and Steven Nemeth, and eight great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Steve Nemeth, on May 30, 1978; her parents, John and Katherine (Brenza) Sarich; a son, George Nemeth in 1982; and two brothers, Matt and John Sarich.

Visitation is from 4 to 8 p.m. Monday at Werner-Mick Funeral Home in Pontoon Beach. Services are scheduled for 10 a.m. Tuesday at St. Elizabeth Church, with the Rev. Francis Tobangara officiating. Burial will be in Sunset Hill Memorial Estates, Edwardsville.

Harold Siner

HAROLD E. Siner, 83, of Dupu, died Saturday, Oct. 23, 1999, at Memorial Hospital in Belleville.

He was born Aug. 27, 1916, in Terre Haute, Ind. Mr. Siner had owned and operated Siner Service Station in Dupu and retired from National City Cold Storage Co.

He is survived by one son, Jim Siner of Dupu; two daughters, Peggy McElroy of Sesser, and Deborah Boyd of Huntsville, Ala.; four grandchildren, Tim Siner, Jim Siner, Tom McElroy and Faith Ann Feitmeyer, and three great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Beatrice (Biggs) Siner; his parents, Alfred and Mary (Dunn) Siner, and a great-granddaughter.

Funeral services were Wednesday at Dasher Funeral Home in Dupu with Rev. Robert Walker officiating. Burial was in Valhalla Gardens of Memory in Belleville.

Memorials may be made to the donors' choice.

Donald Stratton

DONALD W. STRATTON, 43, of Cahokia, died Thursday, Oct. 28, 1999, at his residence.

He was born Dec. 12, 1955, in St. Louis.

He is survived by his wife, Donna M. (Parker) Stratton; a son, Timothy Stratton of Cahokia; two daughters, Jessica Littrell of Cape Girardeau, Mo., and Nissa Stratton of Cahokia; two grandchildren, Logan M. Littrell and Makayla Stratton; her mother, Barbara A. (Harris) Stratton of Cahokia; a sister, Diane Elaine Stratton of Omaha, Texas; her

grandmother, Ruth Stratton of Swansea; and her grandfather, Herbert Harris of Citrus Heights, Calif.

He was preceded in death by his father, Michael Stratton; grandmother, Clara Harris, and grandfather, Paul H. Stratton Sr.

Funeral services will be Monday at 11 a.m. at Kassy Mortuary Chapel, Fairview Heights with the Rev. James Stockton officiating.

Memorials may be made to Family Hospice of Belleville Area.

Ralph Wilkerson

RALPH RAY WILKERSON, 77, of Wood River, died at 12:44 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 26, 1999, at Alton Memorial Hospital in Alton.

He was born April 20, 1922, in Wilton, Iowa. Mr. Wilkerson was a U.S. Army veteran of World War II and member of VFW Post 2376 of Wood River. He was active with the Boy Scouts of America Troop Number 35 of Wood River.

He is survived by his wife, Irene (Warner) Wilkerson, whom he married on May 8, 1948. Other survivors include two sons, Ronald Ray Wilkerson of Granite City, and David A. Wilkerson of Shipman, and four grandchildren, Leah (Daryl) Randolph, Ronald D. Randolph, Wilkerson and Lacey Wilkerson.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Ray G. and Anna (Schorr) Wilkerson, and a grandson, Brandon David Wilkerson.

Funeral services were Friday at Marks Mortuary in Wood River with Mark Thomas, Kerry Ford and John Robinson officiating.

Burial was in Valhalla Memorial Park in Oakridge.

Memorials may be made to First Christian Church of Bethalto.

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Entertainment

Killer mutant bats wreak havoc in fictitious Texas town

Why is it that whenever genetically altered bats wreak havoc, it's always in a sleepy Texas town?

The fictitious Gallup, Texas, is the unfortunate setting for "Bats," a movie that's too unintentionally funny to be scary.

Lou Diamond Phillips plays Sheriff Emmett Kinsey. He's supposed to be a cigar-chomping good ol' boy, but his fake twang falls apart on him.

Emmett and Dr. Sheila Casper (Dina Meyer) — a wildlife zoologist who happens to be a strikingly beautiful blonde — try to rid Gallup of these furious flying creatures, which are the work of a mad scientist (who else?). An expert on bats, Sheila is called in to investigate so she can say things like, "Bats do not kill people. Period."

Her assistant, Jimmy (Leon), is petrified of bats so it's only natural he would choose to work with them as a career. Sadly, Jimmy, who happens to be black, is the worst of Hollywood stereotypes. He's supposed to provide comic relief, but his lines aren't funny. "I like 'em, but at a distance," Jimmy says of bats. "Like on 'Wild Kingdom.' Ha."

The mad scientist, Dr. Alexander McCabe (Bob Gunton), ambles around town with a crazed look in his eyes, wearing a wool blazer, a sweater vest and a long-sleeved shirt in the middle of a Texas heat wave. When Sheila frantically asks him why he created killer bats, the camera slowly zooms in on his sweaty face as he utters, "Because I'm a scientist. That's what we do." It's like something out of a "Saturday Night Live" skit.

Of course, Gallapites are skeptical at first that killer bats are among them. They ignore Emmett's evacuation order and go about their small town business. But we all know what's coming... BATS! Soon these quintessentially folksy folks are scurrying

through the streets, shrieking and seeking shelter, in a scene that's clearly a rip-off of "The Birds."

Naturally, the bats pick apart everyone in sight but they manage to avoid hurting our heroes. And after not having showered for days and

surviving multiple bat attacks, Sheila still looks sexy and fashionable in cargo pants and a tight tank top.

As a pack, in their flapping frenzy, the bats are obviously fake but kind of cool-looking. Up close, however, they look like pug dogs with wings. One of them is almost cute as it creeps along a lunch counter toward an unsuspecting truck driver. Then the bat throws the man on the counter and has him for lunch.

"Bats" offers lots of obligatory gross-outs. Emmett and Sheila infiltrate the creatures' cave and fall into a giant, gloopy river of bat dung. A young couple kissing in a car gets ripped to shreds and then tossed through a windshield. But director Louis Morneau's pacing is too fast to make these scenes suspenseful.

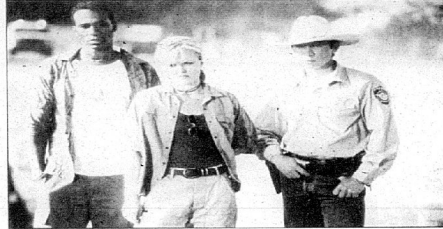
There is one decently executed scene early on, however. Emmett and Sheila drive

around in his patrol truck looking for the bats. They find them — thousands of them — that stick to his sport utility vehicle like refrigerator magnets and eventually poke their way in through the engine and the air conditioning vents. The scene is a gory, guilty pleasure; the remainder of the movie isn't even campy in a good way.

In the midst of the carnage, the camera lingers way too long on a movie theater marquee that's too cliché to be clever: "NOW PLAYING — NOSFERATU." It's unlikely Gallup would even have a theater — and if it did, you hope it wouldn't show "Bats."

"Bats," a Destination Films release, is rated R for language, violence and gore. It was written by John Logan. Running time: 90 minutes.

— Associated Press



Leon, Dina Meyer and Lou Diamond Phillips in Destination Films' new release, "Bats."

Horoscopes

SUNDAY, OCT. 31

The solid nature of the Taurus moon gives way to speedy Gemini. Will March go out like a lamb? Either way, spring fever should be greatly accelerated. An aspect to Mars suggests there are almost too many distractions from the business at hand. Finish primary tasks first, and then take a walk. Experience the beauties of nature, no matter where you live.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (Oct. 31). Your services are in demand this year, and you can start asking for your dream price. Next month, focus your attention to making a difference in your immediate surroundings and in the lives of the less fortunate. Charity leads to love, and love leads to deeper commitments. Couples could have new children in November. Your best signs for new love are Gemini and Sagittarius.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). It is best to stay out of a domestic situation and let others work out their problems on their own. Don't hold back on creative concepts, someone else will take credit if you don't!

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Factors work to your advantage in a business deal you've had second thoughts about. Hold out until all details have been revealed. People in the entertainment industry could play an important role in your career.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Acquaintances could make strange inferences to people you've known in the past. Refrain from impulsive commitments until you know the

whole story. Success means remaining friends with every one.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Keeping your nose to the grindstone could be the only way to complete a project on time. Money goes to the leader, so get the first word in, and show enthusiasm. A Capricorn helps you make sound financial choices.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Pulling your own weight with someone who's difficult to please could take more from you than you think. Prove yourself through your talents without going for a lot of competitive. Keep an eye on your valuables tonight.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You find delicious love with a

Scorpio or Aries. People who are anxious to advise you on money matters may be trying to advance their own interests at your expense. Check into their backgrounds and track records.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You are reunited with someone dear. As for the one who is overselling your talents and achievements, let him or her! A close friend may drive you up the wall by assuming you'll go along with decisions made in your absence.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Don't wait for an opportunity to put your foot down, just do it! Sharing secrets is a sure way to let people know your business. Avoid talking intimately this afternoon unless you want the world to know.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). The power to change is not outside you. You are stronger than you think. Faulty research done by an associate could throw a

time bomb into a work project. Double-check facts and figures.

APRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Possessiveness on your part could blow a relationship with someone you care for. Spending more time alone is lucky. Money matters could keep you in red tape unless you seek help from financial pros.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You are a star at work. The real challenge is at home. Getting your fair share in a matter involving family members could prove more difficult than dealing with strangers. Libra associations are lucky.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). You could suddenly be offered a position in a glamorous field. Someone who's attracted to you may get a distorted picture of your life from a person who's jealous of you. This could be hard to correct.

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Holbrook portrays Twain at EHS

Nationally renowned actor appeared in one-man show

By Barbara M. Cope
Staff writer

Nationally renowned actor Hal Holbrook returned to the small stage and wowed an audience with his portrayal of author and humorist Mark Twain.

Holbrook appeared Wednesday night as part of the STUE Arts & Issues series with his one-man show, "Mark Twain Tonight!" The sold-out performance in the Edwardsville High School auditorium was Holbrook's 2,003rd performance of the show that gives the audience a taste of what it would have been like to sit and have a conversation with the Missouri-born writer known for his wit, as well as his tales.

"All I require of an audience is that they sit there and stay as long as they can remain conscious," Holbrook quipped at the beginning of the show.

Holbrook, 74, portrayed Twain at the age of 70, when his irreverence already was firmly documented.

"Have you ever wondered why the human race was created? Or if something went wrong with the original conception?" the actor asked in Twain's characteristic twang.

Later, Holbrook as Twain said, "I have often wondered if God invented man because he was disappointed with the

monkey."

The Twain humor spared no profession or moral issue. All became fair game as Holbrook expounded on the Twain philosophy of life.

"I have always wondered why God invented lawyers. Did his mind wander? The more I see of lawyers, the more I favor hanging."

"First, God made idiots for practice, then he made Congress. I never vote for politicians. It only encourages them," Holbrook said as Twain during the performance.

About Twain's former profession, newspaper reporting, Holbrook as Twain said he took the job because he didn't want an occupation that required him to work.

Not all of the night was about laughter. Holbrook tugged on heartstrings with a dramatic reading of a scene from "Huckleberry Finn" in which Huck wrestles with the moral implications of hiding the runaway slave Jim from slave hunters.

Holbrook's character also tugged on heartstrings, or lack thereof, in the human character that inevitably causes the downfall of societies. "The Roman Empire that led the Roman Empire to its ruin, he said, still are common in society today."

"We know more than our forefathers, but do we have a better intellect?" he asked.

The Mark Twain characterization, which Holbrook has performed for more than

45 years, grew out of a two-person act Holbrook and his first wife created. The original show featured several characters, ranging from Shakespeare to Twain, but his first one-man appearance came in 1954. The performance has won Holbrook a Tony Award to go with his many Emmy, Peabody and Obie awards.

Holbrook has said he has never been able to quit Twain and probably never will. He has toured the show in some part of every year since 1964, making it one of the longest-running shows in theater history.

There is never any set program for any performance, Holbrook chooses his material as he goes along. He adds new information to the characterization nearly every year, editing and changing it to fit the times, and he now totals his bits and pieces to more than 12 hours of material he can choose from every time he takes the stage.

Along with the Twain role, Holbrook has acted in nearly every capacity known to performers. He is known for his roles on television series including "Evening Shade" and "Designing Women" - in which his third wife, actress Dixie Carter, also starred - and such TV mini-series as "North & South." He also has appeared in such feature films as "The Firm," "Wall Street," "All The President's Men" and "Magnum Force."

Senator Durbin proposes tobacco control program spending limits

Performance standards would determine financial amounts

By Kerry Smith
Staff writer

U.S. Sen. Dick Durbin is proposing setting performance standards that would tie how much Illinois spends on tobacco control programs to how successful those programs are in stopping children from smoking.

With Illinois poised to start spending its share of a \$245 billion settlement between tobacco companies and the states, Durbin, D-Springfield, is touting a plan that fine-tunes a proposal already offered by state Reps. John Fritchey and Sara Feigenholtz. Under the plan, the money Illinois inherits from the case against big tobacco - some \$9 billion - would be increased by a finite annual schedule.

"My proposal would set aside fixed percentages of tobacco control spending in favor of an adjustable amount of spending that can be raised or lowered based on how successful an individual anti-smoking effort is," Durbin said. "We're speaking of programs that are geared specifically toward curbing smoking by children."

More than one out of every three Illinois high school students is a cigarette smoker, Durbin said.

This past summer, in lieu of passing an ordinance banning tobacco use by minors, the city of Wood River estab-

lished an educational fund totaling \$3,000 for any teachers, parents, students or citizens interested in launching

"It's a spending compass that tells us if we need to spend more to keep our kids healthy."

Dick Durbin
Senator

a no-smoking initiative for area youth. Wood River Mayor Lon Smith said that no one has

come forward so far to apply for any of these funds.

Durbin said Tuesday that his plan is intended to help make sure that the amount Illinois spends on tobacco control makes a real difference in the lives of children who smoke.

"It's a spending compass that tells us if we need to spend more to keep our kids healthy," Durbin said. "It makes sense to me that we should spend more money on tobacco control in the beginning to radically change the culture where underage smoking is acceptable. Once we have done that and youth smoking rates start to go down, we can decrease the amount of money spent on tobacco control programs."

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Area unemployment rates continue to fall

Statistics point to good economy, sustained growth in Metro East

By Scott Cousins
Staff writer

Low unemployment rates continue to point to a good economy in the Metro East, according to statistics from the Illinois Department of Employment Security.

For September, the unemployment rate in Madison County fell to 4.1 percent. The overall unemployment rate for the Metro East was 4.4 percent.

Both Monroe and Clinton counties had rates of 2.6 percent, while Jersey County had a 4.2 percent rate, and St. Clair County a 5.3 percent rate.

Rates for municipalities in the area included 3.5 percent for Alton, 7.2 percent for Belleville, 10.3 percent for East St. Louis, and 6.1 percent for Granite City.

These figures compare to a statewide rate of 4.2 percent, and a national rate of 4.1 percent.

Madison County's figures show a drop from the previous month and previous year, which were 4.9 and 4.4 percent, respectively. The lowest unemployment rate in recent history was April's 3.9 percent rate.

"The start of the new school year caused educational institutions to call back workers," according to information provided by IDES. "Dynamic construction activity in both commercial and residential building continued in the five county area."

It also said transportation, especially trucking firms, continued to add workers.

Dennis Hoffman, a labor market economist with the IDES, said unemployment rates have remained low for the past six years.

"It's low, that's clearly a low rate," he said of the Metro East. "It was 3.9 percent in April. They have been low for six years or so, there has been steady improvement."

"Some areas are already in a labor shortage," he said. "I don't think the Metro East is there yet, but some areas of Central Illinois have been complaining about a lack of qualified workers."

An unemployment rate of between 4 or 5 percent is considered "full employ-

"It's low, that's clearly a low rate. It was 3.9 percent in April. They have been low for six years or so, there has been steady improvement."

Dennis Hoffman
Labor market economist

Hoffman said that figure takes into account people who are "unemployable" or are moving from one job to another.

"There are always going to be some people in transition, changing jobs or having a short period between jobs," he said.

He said employment trends continue to look good. For the next few months, he said the unemployment rate is expected to remain at about the same level, but after the first of the year, there will be a seasonal increase as construction

workers and retail workers are laid off.

"Those are the normal seasonal layoffs that occur pretty much every year," he said.

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Search for woman's heirs begins

Continued from Page 1A

-and-wife neighbors who took Apponey into their care while she was recuperating from surgery to repair a broken hip.

Apponey died of a cocaine drug overdose seven weeks after moving in with the couple. Eight days before her death, she signed a will naming the Kramers as beneficiaries, authorities said. The will was filed in court July 22, 1992, one day after Apponey died, records show. Carolyn Kramer raised suspicions about the death when she talked to funeral directors about arrangements for Apponey three days before she died, authorities said.

Those suspicions led authorities to charge Carolyn Kramer with first-degree murder for allegedly giving Apponey lethal doses of prescription Tylenol, cocaine and doxylamine, an over-the-counter sleep aid.

Last year, Circuit Judge Charles Romani Jr. ruled that there wasn't enough evidence to prove Kramer, 58, guilty of murder. He did see her conduct as reckless, however, and found her guilty of involuntary manslaughter. He placed her

on probation in September. Court files put the value of the estate at close to \$50,000, although the court-appointed public administrator has said he believes Kramer may have some of Apponey's assets that have not been turned over to him. The estate funds are held in various bank accounts.

The administrator was appointed after the original executor withdrew from the case because of a conflict of interest. The administrator eventually challenged the will in the interest of "protecting public policy."

"You can't presumably cause someone's death and then collect from it," said Attorney Steve Stobbs, of Alton, who represents the public administrator, James Mihalich.

Stobbs wants to try the case sometime next spring, but Circuit Judge John DeLaurenti said Wednesday it is useless to set up a trial schedule until all potential heirs of Apponey are sought out. A hearing will be held in the next few weeks to address the issue of additional heirs.

The two nieces who filed a claim in 1993 - JoAnn McCreary of Roxana, and Clara Redin Sherman of Libertyville, - still are interested in the estate and upset

that their attorney has not kept them abreast, Meuret said.

"I don't know what's happening," she said. "I haven't heard from him in six years. I can't even get him to call me back so I can fire him."

The attorney, Donald Metzger of Edwardsville, was out of town Wednesday and did not attend the hearing.

Attorney Tim Stubblefield of Belleville represents Keith Kramer but not Carolyn Kramer, who represented herself in court Wednesday. Carolyn Kramer said she plans to hire an attorney, possibly Scott Cain of Edwardsville, who represented her during her criminal case.

Stubblefield said he has been told about the existence of a second will, one supposedly drawn up before the contested will, which also named the Kramers as beneficiaries. Such a document could lend support to the Kramers' claim.

"That's what I've been told, but I haven't seen it," he told The Telegraph.

Theoretically, if there is another will, it would surface during the discovery phase preceding the trial, attorneys said.

Mother angered at suspension

Continued from Page 1A

crossing near the school. The nail clipper had a 2-inch nail file and a 2-inch can-opener file. Under state law, a weapon is defined as any object that can harm another person. Students bringing a weapon to school can face expulsion up to two school years. In Derek's case, he will be suspended from Nov. 1 to the 3, denying him a much-needed education, Madden said.

"He's failing now. Why didn't they keep him in school and give him some kind of homework. They went way too far with this because he didn't try to hurt anybody," she said.

According to Madden, Derek is hyperactive and

takes Ridlin. He has had disciplinary problems at school and was suspended at the beginning of the school year for using profanity. Madden said she knows her son isn't an angel, but considers him a good kid who is anything but violent.

"He just needs a little guidance and help," she said. "The school didn't do any of that."

Virgil Cambarian, principal of Marshall, said any student who brings a 2-inch blade of any kind to the school would be suspended, pending administrative review by the school board. Cambarian said the custodian told Derek to secure the nail clipper and take it home. He declined, calling the custodian an "idiot."

"He had an opportunity to

do what was right, but refused," Cambarian said. "The nail clipper is wicked-looking and both 2-inch blades are sharp and perfectly capable of injuring someone."

In a similar case, 7-year-old Lamont Agnew of Cahokia was suspended in September because he brought a nail clipper to Huffman Elementary School. A state appointed hearing officer was sent to hear the case because an attorney representing the Lamont family said the board violated laws regarding individuals with disabilities. Agnew, who was denied a special education evaluation, returned to school Wednesday after the hearing officer ruled he was inappropriately suspended.

TIF meeting/hearing scheduled

Continued from Page 1A

added that it was easier to include all the land in the initial planning.

Nearby development includes the Lanter warehouse, now under construction, next to the Dial warehouse; a new restaurant to the west, and the Norfolk &

Southern Triple Crown yard north of the Gateway Commerce Park. Part of the area is also included in an enterprise zone, which may be extended north to include the Lakeview Business Park at the intersection of Illinois Route 111 and Poag Road. The village's first TIF district was established in the early 1990s, southeast of the

I-270 interchange, and included both residential and commercial properties.

The inclusion of residential properties in the TIF prompted a lawsuit by the Granite City School District, which eventually ended up in the Illinois Supreme Court, which ruled in favor of the village.

Pontoon Beach nightclub under fire by Trustee Bob Vincent

Continued from Page 1A

Vincent was critical of the business, citing problems with trash and reckless driv-

ers. That led to a brief and sometimes heated argument between the two. In other business, Officer Rick Hays was promoted to

sergeant. Hays and K-9 Officer Chris Modrusic were also recognized for their capture of an auto burglary suspect on Aug. 25 following a traffic

stop. The Board also approved a proposal allowing the police department to purchase a videocassette player and television to be used for

viewing training films. The department had the equipment at one time, but it was damaged when lightning struck city hall several years ago.

The cost of the purchase will not exceed \$500, and will be paid out of the department's drug seizure fund.

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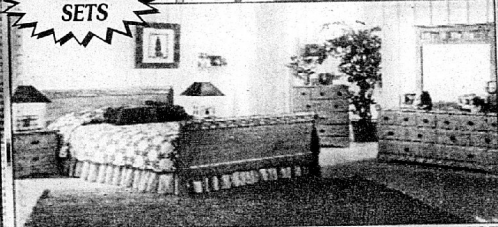
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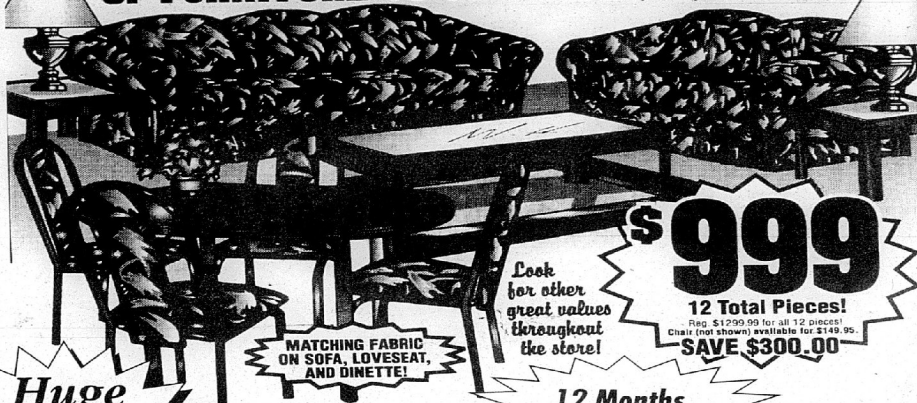


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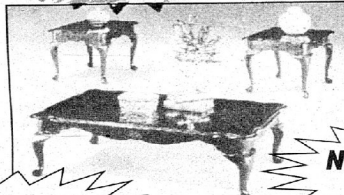
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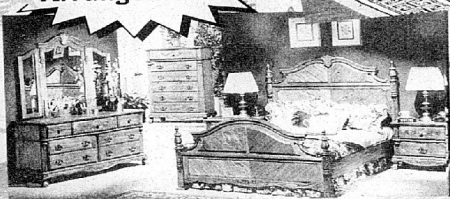
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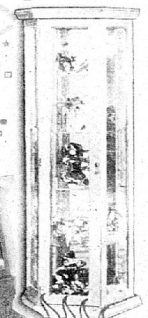
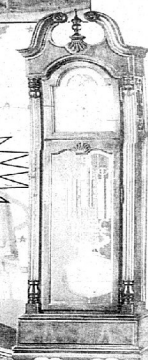
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Tigers taken down

Edwardsville loses first playoff game after 9-0 regular season inside

Sports

www.yourjournal.com

Honored

Granite City Parks District recognizes Ray Hoffman
Page B4

GCHS sends East home

Merz comes through in games vs. Belleville teams

By Rick Broome
Staff writer

Granite City forward Chris Merz is making a sectional habit out of big-game dramatics.

BOYS SOCCER

The senior scored the game-winner in the Warriors' 3-0 victory against Belleville West on Tuesday night.

But he came through with an even more impressive performance Thursday night in the IHSA Class Edwardsville Sectional semifinal at Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville. Merz scored both of Granite City's goals, the second in double overtime, to lead the Warriors to a 2-1 victory against Belleville East.

With 8:34 to play in the second extra session, Granite City had a throw-in opportunity from the left side deep in Lancers territory. Jarod McMillian's hurl sailed into the box, where it found Ian Kessel's nogg.

Kessel's nod hit the crossbar, and Merz was there in a morass of sprawling, desperate activity to head in the rebound.

"I just made a run inside," Merz said. "I saw the ball up in the air coming off the crossbar and I headed it in."

Merz had given the Warriors the lead in the 21st minute. Granite City sophomore Rich Edwards made a run down the right side and crossed the ball into the middle of the Lancers box. Merz said behind the defense and headed the ball home past keeper Patrick Hoercher.

"I beat a defender and lunched it by him," Edwards said. "I just went and struck it and Chris ran onto the ball and put it in like he was supposed to."

But Merz was almost overshadowed by Ryan Coates, who had scored twice for Belleville East on Oct. 14 in its 4-1 victory at Granite City.

Coates struck again on Thursday, tying the score with

"I didn't give him enough time all season and he always merits it. He keeps coming and boy, did he have a great one here."

Gene Baker
Warriors coach
about Chris Merz

23:22 to play in regulation when his free kick from 20 yards curved over the wall and beat Warriors keeper Justin Roehr high to the right.

But the Warriors, the No. 2 seed in the sectional, were able to improve to 15-7-2 while ending the Lancers' season at 9-14.

"It feels great," Merz said. "Two head balls in one game, and I never had a head ball on a score. It was great."

"Merz played an outstanding game," McMillian said. "He just came out and played and now he is going to have a starting spot on the team for the next game."

"We kid Chris a lot," Granite City coach Gene Baker said. "But he has incredible work ethic and it's really neat when you work so hard and everything falls into place for you. I didn't give him enough time all season and he always merits it. He keeps coming and boy, did he have a great one here. He gets the game-winner against West, too. He kind of hurt the town of Belleville — three goals and two game-winners."

McMillian's throws are perhaps the Warriors most dangerous weapon. His toss in overtime finished off Granite City's domination of the extra sessions.

"He was gunning them," Baker said. "We changed the for-

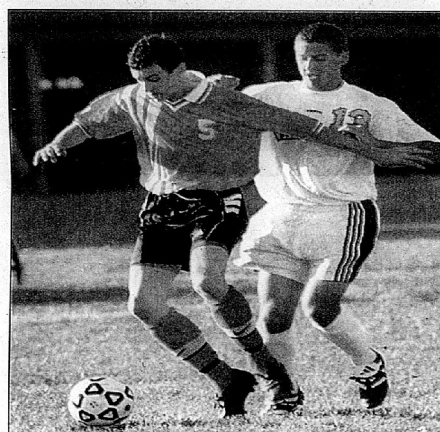
See MERZ, Page B3



Tim Stephenson photo

ABOVE, Granite City's Jeremy Hickam (13) faces a wall of opponents, including the goalie, in a recent game. AT RIGHT, Nathan Geardreault (5) moves the ball down the field for the Warriors. Granite City beat Belleville West in the quarterfinals of the IHSA Class AA Edwardsville Sectional, played on Tuesday at the Gauntlet in Granite City. The Warriors then defeated Belleville East 2-1 in double overtime in Thursday's semifinal contest at Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville. Granite City, now 15-7-3, was scheduled to play No. 1-seeded

Edwardsville on Saturday in the sectional final. The Tigers improved to 21-3-1 after defeating Collinsville 2-0.



Tim Stephenson photo

Edwardsville blanks Kahoks in semifinal

Artrip's tally captures early momentum for Tigers

By Brian Bretsch
Staff writer

The Edwardsville Tigers knew how to take the wind out of Collinsville's sails Thursday night.

BOYS SOCCER

Matt Artrip headed a goal past Kahoks keeper Kevin Connelly just 6 minutes 25 seconds into the IHSA Class AA Edwardsville sectional semifinal clash at Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville.

The Tigers (21-3-1) and seeded No. 1 in the sectional went on to post a 2-0 victory and earn a berth opposite second-seeded Granite City (15-7-2) in Saturday morning's championship game.

Collinsville, which represented the Metro East fall by advancing as far as the IHSA super-sectional round, was coming into the game with the momentum of a 2-1 overtime victory against No. 4 seed Springfield.

But Artrip, who headed in a corner kick from Ryan Luckett, delivered an early message for Edwardsville.

"If you can think of a lot of scenarios to get some momentum for your next match, if not winning the prior match in overtime is not one of the best ways

"The first goal to me wasn't a big problem. The second goal they got right before the half was a problem."

Ron Rowden
Collinsville coach

to get momentum in preparation for your next, that I am not sure what is," Edwardsville coach Mark Schwarzkopf said. "We had a level of concern about this match because they were playing with some success. To be down 1-0 and equalize with two or three minutes left in the game and then win it in overtime, definitely says they have some ability."

"That is conjunction with we respect Collinsville's pool of players. I think they have some very talented and gifted players."

But Edwardsville has plenty of talent as well. The Tigers have not lost a Southwestern Conference opponent this season

and have not lost a game in which they have scored first.

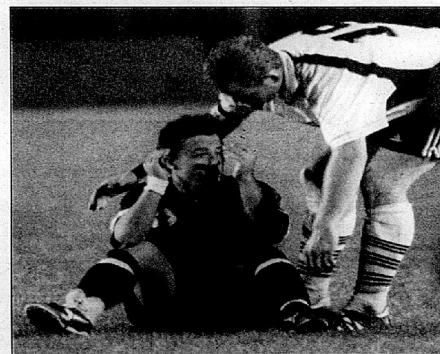
"I think more than anything, the timing of it was crucial," Schwarzkopf said. "I think it surprised their goalkeeper somewhat and he dealt with it initially very well."

Collinsville coach Ron Rowden didn't think Artrip's goal deflated the Kahoks, who finished the season 11-10, as much as Luke Krealmeyer's goal at 29:44.

Artrip worked the ball to the upper left corner of the box where he spotted Krealmeyer shadowing a Kahoks defender. Artrip slid the ball over to Krealmeyer, who made a stutter-step move, turned, and then threaded a shot through traffic to put the Tigers ahead 2-0.

"The first goal to me wasn't a big problem," Collinsville coach Ron Rowden said. "The second goal they got right before the half was a problem. It is easier to come at Edwardsville and attack and get some goal-scoring opportunities down one, but not two because they can slow the play down and put pressure on you."

"I'll take my hat off to my guys as far as after that first goal and after the second goal, I thought we played a pretty solid



John Swestak Jr. photo

Edwardsville's Tim Byrnes (19) consoles a Collinsville player after the Tigers' victory in a semifinal game of the IHSA Class AA Edwardsville Sectional on Thursday.

first half. It was a good sectional semifinal game. They had some chances. For five or 10 minutes, our keeper didn't touch the ball. That is indicative of how well we possessed the ball in the final third. The box play we had, we

had some good shots but we just didn't quite get the ball to the right player in the right space. The Kahoks did have two shots on net in the first half, but

See KAHOKS, Page B3

Atkins finds stride again

Senior looks for sectional success

By Rick Broome
Staff writer

Kevin Atkins recently got a fright that had nothing to do with Halloween.

In the Southwestern Conference Invitational on Oct. 15, the team fared well, but their senior runner, in third place, slowed to a halt near the end of the race.

It was a mix of mixed feelings, Granite City coach Tom Haefner said. Kevin Atkins was running, and he was going to finish in third, but 200 yards from the finish line, he suffered a heat-related injury. He slowed down and walked across the line and finished in 37th instead of third.

"We were quite worried. We thought it could have been an injury that would threaten the rest of his season. Heat exhaustion is serious, but you can get over it fairly quickly. So we were relieved in the end."

"I'm doing fine now," Atkins said. "What happened is that I had been real busy all week and hadn't really gotten the amount of sleep and water I needed to be getting in."

It was a windy day, so you had to work to fight the wind. On top of that, it was not, even though it didn't feel like it. It was around 65 degrees. I had gotten used to running in colder weather, and it was just kind of a shock to my body. My legs just gave out on me with about 200 yards left. But I'm doing fine now."

Atkins has been doing more than fine all season.

"My best performance place-wise was the East Alton-Wood River Meet (Oct. 9)," Atkins said. "That's the fourth year in a row I've won it. They run by class divisions there, all the freshmen together, and sophomores, juniors, seniors. That's my fourth year winning it, and I have a set of four plaques that all say 'No. 1'."

"Other than that, my highest place was fourth place up at Edwardsville. But at the Conference in East St. Louis, I think I probably could have gotten second. I was in third when I went down, and I was building up on the guy who was in front of me. I was getting ready to catch his speed, and I went from about a 200-yard deficit to about 20, and my legs gave out on me."

Atkins' best time this year for a 5K has been 17:02, run at Mount Vernon on Sept. 11. He ran a three-mile best of 16:12 at Triad on Sept. 29.

Atkins also led the Warriors in the IHSA Class AA Regionals on Oct. 23 with a time of 17:32. His time, and that of teammate Andy Baker (17:36), led the Warriors into yesterday's sectional.

"These two were very close, and that was great," Haefner said. "I think Kevin may have still been suffering some of the after-effects of the heat exhaustion from a week earlier. He wasn't up to his top speed yet, but he will be ready for sectionals on Saturday. I was very happy with both of them. We hope

See ATKINS, Page B4

Sports

Lancers soph steps up in playoffs

Hoercher leads Belleville East to upset win vs. O'Fallon

By Scott Marion
Staff writer

With the season on the line, Pat Hoercher was at his best. Hoercher, a sophomore goalkeeper for the Belleville East soccer team, posted his third consecutive shutout Tuesday as the No. 6 Lancers upset third-seeded O'Fallon 3-0 in the quarterfinals of the IHSA Class AA Edwardsville Sectional.

"I started last year for the JV team because we had two senior goalies, Pat Boyko and Owen Seibel," Hoercher said. "Owen was all (Southwestern) conference second team. I watched those guys a lot last year and learned from them."

"Last summer I went to the Star Goalkeeper Academy in Austin, Texas, and it really helped with my knowledge of the game. The year before I went to the Number One camps in Chicago. I like to see where I am compared to players in different regions."

Hoercher has been playing soccer for nearly 12 years. He started in the Belle-Crest Soccer League, then played for the Belleville-based Shooters select team.

"The reason I'm not playing for the Shooters this year is because the team folded," Hoercher said. "Now I'm with the Lightning, which has guys from Mascoutah, Alton, Belleville East and Belleville West. Playing select really helps, especially on the varsity high school level."

After starting out as a forward, Hoercher has been a goalkeeper for six years.

"I was fooling around in practice one day and stepped in goal and took a few shots and it was kind of fun," Hoercher said. "I stuck with it and really got serious about it five years ago."

"The biggest thing I've improved is my confidence and my knowledge about what to do in certain situations. It's really important in that position not to panic."

"The biggest thing I've improved is my confidence and my knowledge about what to do in certain situations. It's really important in that position not to panic."

Pat Hoercher
Belleville East sophomore

important in that position not to panic. Hoercher didn't start this year as East's No. 1 goalie. "We have a junior, Kory Joyce, who started the first game against Quincy and the second game against O'Fallon," Hoercher said. "I played the second half against O'Fallon and played well and I've had the job ever since. We also have a sophomore goalie, Chris Brown, so we have a lot of depth in goal."

East finished the season 9-14 after a double-overtime loss to second-seeded Granite City on Thursday in the sectional semifinal.

The Lancers upset the Warriors 4-1 on Oct. 14 as part of their fast finish. "At one point in the season we were 4-12 and it really looked bleak, but now we've won five of our last six," Hoercher said before the sectional semifinal.

One of the things we're counting on is, but after the Granite City game we haven't looked back. The difference between now and the beginning of the season is nothing technical or physical - it's all mental. We're all confident and we really want to win now."



Scott Marion photo

Belleville East goalkeeper Pat Hoercher shut out O'Fallon on Tuesday for his third straight blanking as the Lancers won five of their last seven games.

Boys soccer playoffs

Boys prep soccer playoffs

Class AA Edwardsville Sectional
Friday, Oct. 22
Game 1: Alton 1, Springfield Southeast 0.
Game 2: Belleville West 1, Springfield Lancher 2 (OT/PS).

Tuesday, Oct. 26
Game 3: Edwardsville 2, Springfield 0.
Game 4: Collinsville 2, Belleville West 0.
Game 5: Granite City 3, Belleville West 0.
Game 6: Belleville East 0, Collinsville 0.

Semifinals
Thursday, Oct. 28
(at SIU-Edwardsville)
Game 7: Edwardsville 2, Collinsville 0.
Game 8: Granite City 2, Belleville East 1.

Championship
Saturday, Oct. 30
(at SIU)
Game 9: Edwardsville (1) vs. Granite City (2).

Collinsville Super-Sectional
(at SIU)
Tuesday, Nov. 2
Winner: Edwardsville Regional vs. winner Quincy Sectional, 7:30 p.m.

IHSA Class AA State Tournament
(at Wedgbury Soccer Complex, Loves Park)
Friday, Nov. 5
Quarterfinals

Game 1: Winner Woodstock Super-Sectional vs. winner Collinsville Super-Sectional, 12:30 p.m.
Game 2: Winner Bloom Township Super-Sectional vs. winner Rockton Honors Super-Sectional, 2:30 p.m.
Game 3: Winner Lyons Super-Sectional vs. winner Palatine Promis Super-Sectional, 5:30 p.m.
Game 4: Winner New Trier Super-Sectional vs. winner Chicago Public League, 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, Nov. 6

Semifinals
Game 5: Winner Game 1 vs. winner Game 2, 9 p.m.
Game 6: Winner Game 3 vs. winner Game 4, 11 a.m.
Game 7: Loser Game 5 vs. loser Game 6, 5 p.m.
Championship
Game 8: Winner Game 5 vs. winner Game 6, 7 p.m.

Class A Columbia Sectional

Game 1: Breese Mater Dei 2, Columbia 1.
Game 2: Waterloo 10, Breese Central 0.
Game 3: Mascoutah 5, Westcott 0.
Game 4: Centralia 2, Mount Carmel 1.
Game 5: Lebanon 1, at Gibraltar 0.

Semifinals

Game 6: Belleville Alton 3, Mater Dei 0.
Game 7: Waterloo 1, Mascoutah 0.
Game 8: Marion 1, Centralia 0.
Game 9: Carbondale 1, Lebanon 0.
Championship
Thursday, Oct. 28
At Columbia Soccer Complex
Game 10: Alton 2, Waterloo 1.
Game 11: Carbondale defeated Marion.

Championship

Saturday, Oct. 30
At Columbia Soccer Complex
Game 12: Winner Game 10 vs. winner Game 11, 4 p.m.

Class A Marquette Sectional

Game 1: Attom defeated Teutopolis.
Game 2: Triad 7, Olney 0.
Game 3: Alton Marquette 5, Wood River 0.
Game 4: Metro East Lutheran 3, Effingham St. Anthony 0.
Game 5: Bethalto Civic Memorial 8, Carokia 0.

Championship

Tuesday, Oct. 26
At Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville
Game 10: Triad 1, Highland 0.

Marquette Super-Sectional

Game 10: Triad 1, Highland 0.
Game 11: Bethalto Civic Memorial 3, Roxana 1.
Championship
Saturday, Oct. 30
At Gordon Moore Park
Game 12: Winner 10 vs. winner Game 11, 5:30 p.m.

Class A State Tournament

At Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville
Friday, Nov. 5
Quarterfinals
Game 1: Winner Woodstock Super-Sectional vs. winner Rochester Super-Sectional, 12:30 p.m.
Game 2: Winner Geneva Super-Sectional vs. winner Elmwood Park Super-Sectional, 2:30 p.m.
Game 3: Winner Marquette Super-Sectional vs. winner New Lenox Providence Super-Sectional, 5:30 p.m.
Game 4: Winner Urbana Super-Sectional vs. winner East Peoria Super-Sectional, 7:30 p.m.

Semifinals

Game 5: Winner Game 1 vs. winner Game 2, 9 a.m.
Game 6: Winner Game 3 vs. winner Game 4, 11 a.m.
Game 7: Loser Game 5 vs. loser Game 6, 5 p.m.
Championship
Game 8: Winner Game 5 vs. Winner Game 6, 7 p.m.

Class A State Tournament

At Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville
Friday, Nov. 5
Quarterfinals
Game 1: Winner Woodstock Super-Sectional vs. winner Rochester Super-Sectional, 12:30 p.m.
Game 2: Winner Geneva Super-Sectional vs. winner Elmwood Park Super-Sectional, 2:30 p.m.
Game 3: Winner Marquette Super-Sectional vs. winner New Lenox Providence Super-Sectional, 5:30 p.m.
Game 4: Winner Urbana Super-Sectional vs. winner East Peoria Super-Sectional, 7:30 p.m.

Semifinals

Game 5: Winner Game 1 vs. winner Game 2, 9 a.m.
Game 6: Winner Game 3 vs. winner Game 4, 11 a.m.
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Game 4: Winner Urbana Super-Sectional vs. winner East Peoria Super-Sectional, 7:30 p.m.

Prep football

SOUTHWESTERN CONFERENCE

Belleville East
Head Coach: Mike McGinnis
1998 Record: 6-4 (Class 6A)
Football Enrollment: 2345.00

8/26 6:30 H Moline, L 0-17
9/4 1:30 H Cahokia, L 0-27
9/10 7:30 A Greve Couer (Mo.) DeSmet, L 0-47

9/17 7:30 A Belleville West, L 13-22
9/25 1:30 H Collinsville, L 22-27
10/1 7:30 A Granite City, W 21-14

10/8 7:30 A East St. Louis, W 34-26
10/15 7:30 H Edwardsville, L 7-42
10/22 7:30 A Alton, W 31-20

Belleville West
Head Coach: Dennis Sney
1998 Record: 0-9 (Class 6A)
Football Enrollment: 2109.00

8/27 7:30 A O'Fallon, L 20-34
9/3 7:30 A Belleville Alton, L 0-20
9/10 7:30 A Collinsville, W 21-13

9/17 7:30 H Belleville East, W 22-13
9/24 7:30 H Alton, L 16-24
10/1 7:30 H Edwardsville, L 14-49

10/8 7:30 H Granite City, L 13-14 (OT)
10/15 7:30 A East St. Louis, W 20-18
10/22 7:30 H Triad, W 23-16

Collinsville
Head Coach: Tim Kane
1998 Record: 8-2 (Class 5A)
Football Enrollment: 1840.14

8/27 7:00 A Civic Memorial, L 0-15
9/3 7:30 H Mascoutah, L 12-15
9/10 7:30 H Belleville West, L 13-21

9/17 7:30 A Granite City, W 14-6
9/25 1:30 A Belleville East, W 27-22
10/1 7:30 A East St. Louis, L 23-45

10/8 7:30 H Alton, W 35-21
10/15 7:30 A Cahokia, L 7-48
10/22 7:30 H Edwardsville, L 14-49

East St. Louis
Head Coach: Terry Hill
1998 Record: 7-4 (Class 5A)
Football Enrollment: 2334.00

8/28 1:30 H Chicago Simeon, L 7-20
9/4 1:30 H St. Louis Sumner, W 13-6
9/12 7:30 H Alton, W 15-7

9/19 7:30 A Edwardsville, L 0-28
10/1 7:30 H Collinsville, W 45-23
10/8 7:30 H Belleville East, L 26-34

10/15 7:30 H Belleville West, L 18-20
10/22 7:30 A Granite City, L 12-23

Edwardsville
Head Coach: Tim Dougherty
1998 Record: 9-1 (Class 5A)
Football Enrollment: 2055.00

8/28 6:30 H Civic Gate Pk., W 47-12
9/3 7:30 H St. Louis Nwa Jr. ROTC, W 48-6
9/10 7:30 H Granite City, W 29-0

9/17 7:30 A Alton, W 45-14
9/24 7:30 H East St. Louis, W 28-0
10/1 7:30 A Belleville West, W 45-14

10/8 7:30 H Springfield (Mo.) Glendale, W 39-9
10/15 7:30 A Belleville East, W 42-7
10/22 7:30 A Collinsville, W 49-14

Granite City
Head Coach: Nick Petrillo
1998 Record: 3-6 (Class 5A)
Football Enrollment: 2411.00

8/27 7:30 A Cahokia, L 0-7
9/3 7:30 H Jerseyville, L 20-29
9/10 7:30 A Edwardsville, L 0-28

9/17 7:30 H Collinsville, L 6-14
9/25 7:30 A Belleville Alton, L 12-33
10/1 7:30 H Belleville East, L 14-21

10/8 7:30 A Belleville West, W 14-13 (OT)
10/15 7:30 A Alton, W 21-14
10/22 7:30 H East St. Louis, W 23-12

CAHOKIA CONFERENCE
Breese Central
Head Coach: Jim Falconio
1998 Record: 4-5 (Class 3A)
Football Enrollment: 540.00

8/27 7:30 A Greenville, W 30-6
9/3 7:30 H Freeburg, W 21-10
9/10 7:30 A Dupu, L 13-19

9/17 7:30 A Breese (Mater Dei), L 6-22
9/24 7:30 A Columbia, W 28-8
10/1 7:30 H Red Bud, W 41-6

10/8 7:30 H Jerseyville, W 34-28
10/15 7:30 A Rochester, L 8-23
10/22 7:30 H Pinckneyville, W 22-15

Carlyle
Head Coach: Gary Wheeler
1998 Record: 4-5 (Class 2A)
Football Enrollment: 487.93

8/27 7:30 H Vandalia, W 15-0
9/3 7:30 H Perryville (Mo.) St. Vincent, L 14-27
9/10 7:30 A Red Bud, W 28-0

9/17 7:30 H Dupu, W 33-0
9/24 7:30 A Freeburg, L 27-31
10/1 7:30 H Columbia, W 18-8

10/8 7:30 A Breese Central, L 28-34
10/15 7:00 A Christopher, L 16-20
10/22 7:30 H Elvira (Elvira), W 79-12

Columbia
Head Coach: Joe Iorio
1998 Record: 4-5 (Class 2A)
Football Enrollment: 474.43

8/27 7:30 A Nashville, L 20-34
9/3 7:30 H Chester, L 7-38
9/10 7:30 A Freeburg, L 0-28

9/17 7:30 A Red Bud, L 26-38
9/24 7:30 H Breese Central, L 8-29
10/1 7:30 H Carlyle, L 9-18

10/8 7:30 H Dupu, L 12-14
10/15 7:30 H Breese Mater Dei, L 7-42
10/22 7:00 A Bunker Hill, W 51-14

Dupo
Head Coach: Gary Mauser
1998 Record: 6-4 (Class 3A)
Football Enrollment: 412.36

8/27 7:30 H Sesser-Valley, L 0-7
9/3 7:00 A Newton, L 0-20
9/10 7:30 H Breese Central, W 19-13

9/17 7:30 A Carlyle, L 0-33
9/24 7:30 H Red Bud, W 14-6

10/1 7:30 H Freeburg, W 15-14

10/8 7:30 A Columbia, W 14-12

10/16 1:00 H Martinsville, L 0-6

10/22 7:30 A Chester, L 14-34

Freeburg
Head Coach: Steve Sergasetter
1998 Record: 5-5 (Class 3A)
Football Enrollment: 647.00

8/27 7:30 H Roxana, W 35-14
9/3 7:30 A Breese Central, L 10-21
9/10 7:30 H Columbia, W 28-0

9/17 7:30 A Quincy Notre Dame, L 12-20
9/24 7:30 H Carlyle, W 31-27
10/1 7:30 A Dupu, L 14-15

10/8 7:30 H Breese Mater Dei, L 8-26
10/15 7:30 A Red Bud, W 36-22
10/22 7:30 A Nashville, L 13-30

Red Bud
Head Coach: Todd Rushing
1998 Record: 1-8 (Class 3A)
Football Enrollment: 475.64

8/27 7:30 A Chester, L 0-39
9/3 7:30 H Metro East Lutheran, W 0-28
9/10 7:30 H Carlyle, L 0-28

9/17 7:30 H Columbia, W 36-28
9/24 7:30 A Breese Central, L 6-41
10/1 7:30 A Rochester, L 22-27

10/8 7:30 H Freeburg, L 22-36
10/22 7:30 H Sparta, L 14-28

MISSISSIPPI VALLEY
Bethalto Civic Memorial
Head Coach: Rick Reinhart
1998 Record: 7-3 (Class 4A)
Football Enrollment: 366.21

8/27 7:00 H Collinsville, W 15-0
9/3 7:30 A Centralia, W 47-8
9/10 7:00 H Effingham, W 19-3

9/17 7:00 H Highland, W 28-13
9/24 7:00 A Waterloo, W 40-7
10/1 7:00 A Triad, W 34-10

10/8 7:00 H Mascoutah, W 22-14
10/15 7:00 A Jerseyville, L 0-13
10/22 7:00 H Springfield Southeast, W 20-17

Highland
Head Coach: Mike Hooker
1998 Record: 5-4 (Class 4A)
Football Enrollment: 635.00

8/27 7:00 H Chicago Crn, W 70-0
9/3 7:00 A Mount Zion, W 47-7
9/10 7:00 H Centralia, L 14-35

9/17 7:00 A Bethalto Civic Memorial, L 13-28
9/24 7:00 A Triad, W 34-0
10/1 7:00 H Jerseyville, L 13-14

10/8 7:00 H Waterloo, W 48-10
10/15 7:00 A Mascoutah, W 26-20 (OT)
10/22 7:00 H Paris, W 51-7

Jerseyville
Head Coach: Bill Breden
1998 Record: 9-9 (Class 4A)
Football Enrollment: 1033.27

8/27 7:30 H Jacksonville, W 14-6
9/3 7:30 A Granite City, W 29-20
9/10 7:30 A Mount Vernon, W 21-7

9/17 7:00 H Waterloo, W 57-8
9/24 7:00 H Mascoutah, W 25-7
10/1 7:00 A Highland, W 14-13

10/8 7:00 A Triad, L 20-87
10/15 7:00 H Bethalto Civic Memorial, W 13-0
10/23 1:00 H Carbondale, W 31-0

Mascoutah
Head Coach: Chris Lindsay
1998 Record: 1-3 (Class 4A)
Football Enrollment: 949.00

8/27 7:30 H Mount Vernon, L 19-35
9/3 7:30 A Collinsville, W 15-12
9/10 7:30 H Robinson, W 19-18

9/17 7:00 H Triad, W 19-6
9/24 7:00 A Jerseyville, L 7-25
10/1 7:00 H Waterloo, W 29-14

10/8 7:00 A Bethalto Civic Memorial, L 14-32
10/15 7:00 H Highland, L 20-26 (OT)
10/22 7:30 A Chatham Glenwood, L 0-38

Triad
Head Coach: Paul Bassler
1998 Record: 1-8 (Class 4A)
Football Enrollment: 1116.00

8/27 7:00 H Marion, L 7-28
9/3 7:00 A Effingham, L 19-42
9/10 7:00 H Mount Zion, W 18-15

9/17 7:00 H Mascoutah, L 5-19
9/24 7:00 H Highland, L 0-34
10/1 7:00 H Bethalto Civic Memorial, L 10-34

10/8 7:00 H Jerseyville, L 20-57
10/15 7:00 A Waterloo, W 27-0
10/22 7:30 A Belleville West, L 15-23

Waterloo
Head Coach: Tom Vogt
1998 Record: 6-4 (Class 3A)
Football Enrollment: 830.07

8/27 7:30 A Piasa Shiloh, L 0-14
9/4 1:00 H Mahomet-Seymour, L 0-42
9/10 7:30 A Carbondale, L 13-21

9/17 7:00 H Jerseyville, L 8-57
9/24 7:00 H Bethalto Civic Memorial, L 10-34
10/1 7:00 A Mascoutah, L 14-29

10/8 7:00 A Highland, L 10-48
10/15 7:00 H Triad, L 0-27
10/22 7:00 H Breese Mater Dei, L 0-40

INDEPENDENTS
Belleville Alton
Head Coach: Glenn Schott
1998 Record: 5-4 (Class 4A)
Football Enrollment: 1035.83

Triad charges to regional title tilt

Knight's Hellon scores lone goal in contest against top-seeded Highland

By Brian Bretsch
Staff writer

The Triad soccer program has had some successful teams in recent seasons. But none had won a sectional championship.

In the last two years, Triad bowed to Carbondale in IHSA Class A sectional championship games. This season, the Knights struggled to a 5-12 record in the regular season. But they were on the verge of turning their No. 4 seed into the Alton Marquette sectional championship Saturday morning.

The Knights were scheduled to play sixth-seeded Bethalto Civic Memorial in the title game following Thursday's 1-0 upset victory against top-seeded Highland.

Joe Hellon, a senior who has been part of Triad's successful regular season campaigns in 1997 and '98, has been at the center of the Knights' playoff run. He scored the lone goal in the victory against Highland.

"We've got a little bit of team magic," Triad coach Mike Villa said. "We haven't had a great year. To be playing for the sectional title and to win would make it a great year."

Hellon scored his goal in the first half came with an assist

"He is getting hot at the right time."

Mike Villa
Triad coach
about Joe Hellon

from Matt Spotanski, who flung a ball into the box for Hellon to head into the net.

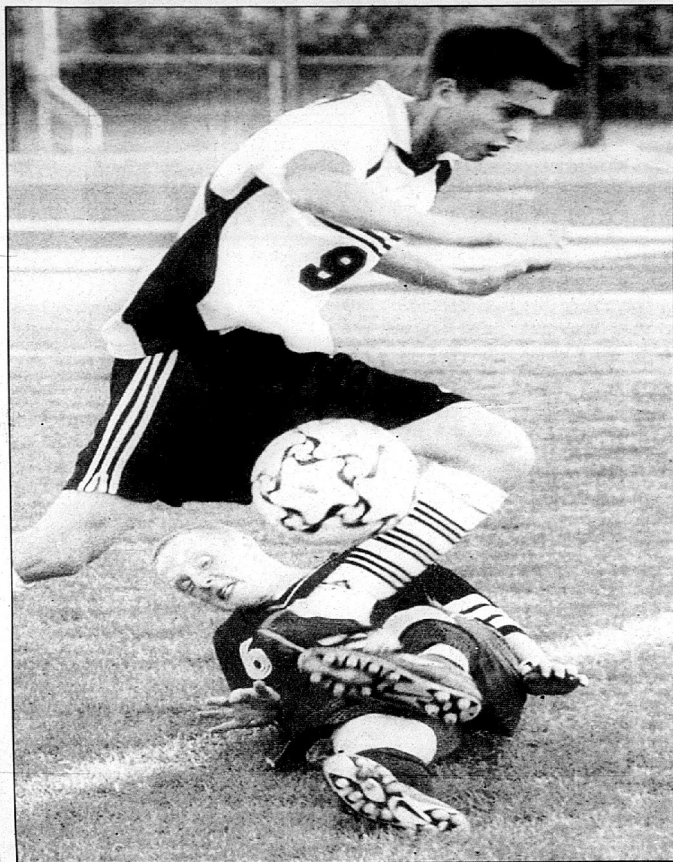
The goal was Hellon's ninth in three postseason games. He had four goals each against Olney and Alton Marquette.

"He is getting hot at the right time," Villa said. "He's been a consistent all year. He comes out and plays hard all the time."

Triad sophomore goalkeeper Jeremy Evans contributed a save on a penalty kick in the second half to keep Highland off the board.

"He guessed right," Villa said. "The shot wasn't perfectly in the corner and he came up with a big save. It was at the right height to save it but if he doesn't guess right it would have been a goal. Jeremy Evans, when we needed him, he came up big."

"If (the save) enabled the kids to realize we can still win. It was certainly a good win for these kids beating their rival and a good win for the program."



Edwardsville senior Josh Haines (9) tries to maintain control of the ball as Collinsville senior Kevin Ralston executes a slide tackle during Thursday night's IHSA Class AA sectional semifinal.

Kahoks blanked in loss to Tigers

Continued from Page B1
their best scoring opportunity came with 6:02 remaining in the game. Mark McClary blasted a bomb that Edwardsville keeper

Nathan Gibson didn't pick up at first. Gibson collected himself in time to punch the ball in the air. Lee Zarzecki ran under the ball and headed it toward the goal, but Gibson snared it.

"We had some situations where we put pressure on them but they (Edwardsville) have been a solid team all year and didn't give up a goal," Rowden said.

Merz comes through in games vs. Belleville teams

Continued from Page B1
mation we were in during overtime. It was wide open. We had an attacker and (Josh) Peacher came alive up front. I thought he did some good things. Mike (Smith) helped us by moving into the midfield. We changed some things up. "Give all due credit to my keeper. He made a bunch of saves, to say the least. The one off (Jeremy) Hickam was

incredible." "Everybody played real well," McMillian said. "Everybody came into the game and played perfect."

The Warriors were in need of another perfect effort Saturday when they were scheduled to play Edwardsville in the sectional final. The top-seeded Tigers (21-3-1) hammered Collinsville 2-0 on Thursday night.

"We need a week to get ready, but unfortunately we don't have it," Baker said. "They are really good. We will need a special game to get by them."

East had some special games while winning five of its last seven games, including an upset of O'Fallon in the sectional semifinal on Tuesday.

"It was a great second effort on their game-winner," East coach Gary Carr said. "They had the upper hand in the overtime periods, and we were hoping we could do a better job, but we played a great game."

"We came on and had a great last half of the season. We are proud of how they have done. We just wish we didn't come up empty here."

Junior boosts Tigers in semi

Kreamalmeyer now has 17 goals

By Brian Bretsch
Staff writer

Luke Kreamalmeyer was up to his usual tricks Thursday night.

The Edwardsville junior scored the second goal during the Tigers' 2-0 victory against Collinsville in the IHSA Class AA sectional semifinal at Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville.

"He has a real sense to find those seams around the box where there is space available," Edwardsville coach Mark Schwarzkopf said. "That goal is typical. He got himself into a dangerous spot, received the ball and then threaded the ball through traffic."

The formula has helped Kreamalmeyer score 17 goals so far this season. And it has helped Edwardsville, which was trying to live up to its No.

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1 sectional seeding in Saturday's scheduled final, post a 21-3 record and capture the Southwest Conference championship.

Kreamalmeyer, who stands just 5 feet 8 inches and weighs 150 pounds, has used the formula to earn all-state and all-sectional honors from the Illinois High School Soccer Coaches Association.

"Luke is the driving force behind our team," Schwarzkopf said. "He is an exceptionally driven competitor who puts pressure on himself to excel but only in order for the team to find success."

"He is our leading goal scorer, which is a stunning accomplishment considering the strength of our schedule. He is a clinical finisher. He is able to get behind individual defenders or compacted defenses off the dribble or in combination. He has the confidence to take people on, being very adept at beating defenders in the tightest of spaces."

Kreamalmeyer also excels without the ball, finding seams and then threading shots with surgical precision.

"People who are unfamiliar with him being a crucial player for us if they watch him just for a few minutes," Schwarzkopf said. "You have to watch 20, 25 minutes and then you begin to appreciate his talent. You can appreciate him with the ball and without the ball."

Schwarzkopf got his first glimpse of Kreamalmeyer five years ago at an Olympic Development Program camp. The Edwardsville coach was impressed with the youngster's skills and his ability to finish.

Kreamalmeyer was so impressive as a freshman in the pre-season workouts that he earned varsity minutes. And he made an immediate impact, scoring a key goal against Granite City in the IHSA playoffs that helped catapult the Tigers into the state tournament. Edwardsville upset two-time defending state champion St. Charles (1-0) in a semifinal round before losing to Palatine Fremd in the title game.

Since the goal against Granite City, Kreamalmeyer has scored against almost everybody the Tigers have played. He has notched 33 career goals.

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Sports

Hoffman recognized at parks district banquet

By Rick Broome
Staff writer

The Granite City Parks District had its awards banquet on Tuesday night. There were 500 people in attendance, including four luminaries of local athletics.

St. Louis Cardinals President Mark Lamping, St. Louis Rams linebacker Mike Jones, World Champion Formula 1 Powerboat Racer and Granite City native Bill Seebold, and St. Louis-based sports agent Harold Lewis were the four guest speakers assembled to speak to the summer's victors.

"They spoke to the teams that won trophies this summer in youth baseball and softball leagues," said Kevin

Granite City native Seebold among guest speakers at event

Wozniak, recreational supervisor for Granite City Parks District. "For the Park District and the kids, it shows the human side. They hear these people's names in the news, but they never see them in person. This showed that there are real people behind the helmets or behind the wheel of the speedboat. It shows the kids that their dreams can be accomplished. There was someone actually there, a real person to see as an example. It shows that you can be from Granite City, and if you work hard you can get there."

"It was great for those people to come over. It shows that they take a

great interest in not just St. Louis, but in the surrounding areas, like Granite City. It shows that your dreams can be realized. It means a lot for them to come over here for us."

Illinois Rep. Steve Davis was given a special award for procuring grant money to help the district. Wozniak has been in the supervisor position since June, but the most special honor of the evening was reserved for his predecessor, Ray Hoffman.

"We pressed Ray with a special appreciation award for service to the Granite City Park District," Wozniak said. "It is the highest honor we can

bestow. It was to show our appreciation for everything he has done for the Park District over the years. Every year we give an appreciation award, and this year, Ray got it. He certainly deserves it."

"Ray spent nine years as the recreational supervisor for the parks. He started umpiring in 1969. He helped organize tournaments and ran bowling on a volunteer basis. He has been working since 1969 with Little League, softball, basketball tournaments and leagues, bowling leagues. You name it, Ray has done it for the parks. For as long as I can remember, Ray has been

"For that many people to think that much of you, it does something to you."

Ray Hoffman
Former recreational supervisor

a part of it."

"I was very, very humbled," Hoffman said. "I almost lost it. All those people standing and clapping for me. For that many people to think that much of you, it does something to you."

Gurnee Warren rallies past No. 4 Edwardsville

Blue Devils score 17 fourth-quarter points to advance

By Greg Shashack
Staff writer

With the harsh reality of Edwardsville's loss still hovering over the Sports Complex, Tim Dougherty stood at midfield and tried to sift through ashes of a season that ended too soon.

"Playoffs, unless you win it all, it's always tough," Dougherty said after Tom DePietro's 27-yard field goal on the game's final play gave Gurnee Warren a 17-14 victory over Edwardsville in the opening round of the Class 6A playoffs. "I don't know. It's going to be a long walk in."

At the end of that long walk to the locker room waited a team devastated with an early postseason exit after a 9-0 regular season. Warren, the No. 29 seed, made the six-hour trip from near the Wisconsin border and looked overmatched before rallying from a 14-0 halftime deficit to pull out the victory with 17 points in the fourth quarter.

"There aren't even words to describe this," Edwardsville senior Joe Bevis said. Edwardsville's defense limited Warren, which improves to 7-3, to just 10 yards total offense and no first downs in the first half. The Tigers, meanwhile, cut through the Blue Devils for 184 yards of offense, posting touchdown runs of 3 and 7 yards from Travis Evans to take a 14-0 lead to halftime.

"We weren't doing anything, we had nine

plays in the first half," Warren coach Dave Mohapp said. "Our defense kept us in the game."

"I don't know, it was a strange game." But when Dante Daniels, the defending Class AA state track champion in the 200 meters, turned a short pass into a 51-yard gain, it cut the Tigers. And they couldn't stop the bleeding.

"That seemed to be the one that flipped the switch," Mohapp said.

DePietro said, "That started our engine, I think."

Daniels' 4-yard touchdown run cut the deficit to 14-7 with 11:30 left in the fourth quarter. Warren's next drive covered 82 yards, sustained by a personal foul penalty that spared the Blue Devils a third-and-9 situation at their own 31.

They tied the game on another 4-yard TD run from Daniels with 3:20 left in the game. "I think the first half, we were a little bit intimidated," DePietro said. "They're 9-0 and their size, they're really big."

But the Tigers' size couldn't stop the Devils in the fourth quarter. After stopping Edwardsville without a first down, Warren got the ball back at its own 49 with 1:30 left. C.J. Cusker's run of 16 and 7 yards set up DePietro's game-winning boot. "I didn't want to get into overtime with them," Mohapp said. "That's a powerful offense, and I don't know how long we could hang in there with them."

Evans led the Tigers with 100 yards on 26 carries.

Atkins finds his stride again after incident at SWC meet

Continued from Page B1

for the sectionals that they can both step it up even further."

"I'm happy with how I have done," Atkins said. "I think I could have done better at quite a few meets, especially conference. We are doing pretty good as a team so far. I think we can go on to state. The top five teams go, and right now pretty much the shoe-ins in our sectional are Centuria, Edwardsville, and Peoria Richmond, which leaves us, Salem, Mount Vernon, teams like that fighting for the spots. We have beaten Salem before, we have beaten Mount Vernon before this season. So I

think if we have a good meet we can come out and go up to state."

"We want to try to get the whole group backed up with us. Right now basically what I am going to try to see if we can get the team to do Saturday is not worry about the other runners around us. Instead we will key in on the runner from Granite in front of them and try to beat them. If we can, keeping doing that, if we can each build up on the kid from Granite in front of us, that is going to make all of us run better to catch the kid in front of us. If we can do that, no matter where we come in, I think we can build on our places. What we need is to run as a good, tight pack. We'll see if we can do it."

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Officials cry foul on filmmakers scouting prep football games

You've seen them - parents, grandparents, friends - carrying camcorders into high school sporting events with the hope of getting film that will last for a lifetime.

The problem is that at some high school football games this fall, scouts from the Southwest Conference are wanting to get an edge on an opponent by becoming mixed with other filmmakers.

Apparently, this happened with Southwest Conference member Alton being filmed by Quincy and with South Seven Conference member O'Fallon (which will enter the SWC next year) being caught on tape by Columbia (Mo.) Hickman.

"There's not much you can do about it," said O'Fallon Coach Gary Bridell, whose Panthers welcomed Hickman for homecoming at O'Fallon Oct. 16. The Kewpies left with a 56-14 victory. However, officials of the Southwest Conference agreed recently to form a policy and submit it to the Illinois High School Association that prohibits the practice of schools filming an opponent but seldom enforces the rule.

Overtime
The recent paralysis of a football player at Rolling Meadows High School in Northern Illinois sent a reminder to all prep coaches and even those on the little league level: The practice site must be as safe as that of the game.

At Rolling Meadows, 6-foot-1, 175-pound Robert Komosa was tackled by three players during a scrimmage and driven into a metal fence.

The junior running back fractured two vertebrae in his neck when his head hit a fence post approximately 12 feet beyond the sidelines of the practice field. Thinking of such made me wonder how lucky players have been at the Belleville Township Stadium where the corner of the end zone near the scoreboard is

less than 10 feet from the playing field.

Today's bigger and faster prep football teams also have me wondering how long it will be before a player is driven into a team bench on either side of the Township field.

Extra Innings
Boston newspapers referred to former Belleville West baseball star Brian Daubach as the "Belleville Basher" this season. While his hitting efforts had him contending for Rookie of the Year honors, Daubach also should have been recognized for his humility without nickname. Rather than dwelling on "I" after some of his achievements, the ninth-year pro credited manager Jimmy Williams "for not giving up on guys."

A late-season slump saw Daubach's average drop from the .326 to .290, but Williams never gave up on him.

And even after an 0-for-6 performance in a postseason game,

Williams had Daubach hitting third at Cleveland, where he had two doubles and a single as the Red Sox advanced to the American League Championship Series.

"If he doesn't get Manager of the Year, it's a joke," Daubach said of Williams, who also had no reservations in batting the left-handed rookie against left-handed pitching.

Among the Daubach fans who predicted the Red Sox comeback against Cleveland was former Boston minor league pitcher Ted Tedesco of Belleville.

Footnote
Recent reference to Homer Bush on an All-Century Illinois high school football team drew a request from R.J. Krause of East St. Louis.

Bush, currently the No. 1 seed on the list for the Toronto Blue Jays, caught 70 passes for 1,431 yards and 22 touchdowns during his senior year (1990) at East St. Louis Senior High School.

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Hometown Stars

Granite City's Kevin Greene: An All-Pro hometownner

By Rick Broome
Staff writer

Granite City South graduate Kevin Greene is known for his flowing blonde locks and ferocious pocket rushes. For the past 14 seasons, Greene has made a name for himself as a defensive end/outside linebacker in the National Football League.

Greene was a two-year varsity starter at South. He also played basketball and was a high jumper on the track team.

Greene attended Auburn

University and walked on to the football team. In his senior season, Greene led the Tigers in sacks with 11. Greene finished with 69 career tackles at Auburn and graduated with a degree in criminal justice.

The Los Angeles Rams drafted Greene in the fifth round of the 1995 draft with the 131st overall pick.

He played in 15 games in his rookie season, most of them on special teams. Greene did manage 15 tackles from the defensive line in limited duty.

After three seasons as a backup, Greene started 14 of 16 games in 1998 and then started all 63 games for the Rams from 1999 to '92. He led the Rams in sacks in four seasons, posting career highs of 16.5 sacks in 1998 and '99.

Prior to the 1993 season, Greene signed as a free agent with Pittsburgh, where he would enjoy his greatest individual and team successes. After leading the Steelers in sacks in '93, Greene led the NFL in sacks in '94 with 14. In addition

to Pro Bowl and numerous All-Pro selections, Greene was voted the AFC Linebacker of the Year by the NFL Players Association.

In 1995, Greene notched his seventh consecutive season of not missing a start and led the Steelers to an appearance in the Super Bowl, in which they lost to the Dallas Cowboys. Greene also recorded the 100th sack of his career during the '95 season.

The following season, Greene signed with the

Carolina Panthers and helped the team to the NFC Championship game, in which they lost to the Packers. Greene led the league that year with 14.5 sacks to win his second sack title. He made the Pro Bowl for the fourth time, including his first start in the NFL's all-star game.

After a one-year stint with San Francisco in 1997, Greene returned to Carolina and earned his fifth Pro Bowl selection after tying for third in the league with 15 sacks. He also recorded

66 tackles, forced one fumble, recovered one fumble, intercepted two passes and forced a team-high 36 quarterback hurries.

This fall, Greene is marking his 15th season in the NFL and once again is a member of the Panthers. A former captain in the Army Reserves, Greene owns a Gold's Gym in Alabama. He and wife, Tara, live in Charlotte.

Greene has posted 85.5 of his 148 career sacks after the age of 30, proving that he gets better with age.

Belleville's Buddy Ebsen is a television immortal

By Christopher England
Staff writer

In 1908 in Belleville, a star was born to a turn-of-the-century physical instructor, Professor Christian L. Ebsen, and his German housewife, Frances Wendt-Ebsen. The

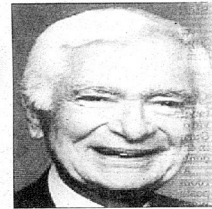
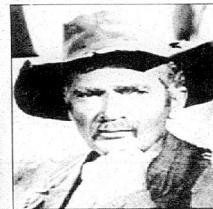
boy's name was Ludolpho L. Ebsen, later to be known to the world as Buddy Ebsen, renowned stage star and television giant.

Buddy's parents were well known around the area at the start of the 20th century as well-educated, physically

fit people who owned a beach and summer resort on Lebanon Avenue.

The "Natatorium" sat on 7 acres of land near the present Lake Christine area in the north end of Belleville.

See EBSEN, Page 7B



Buddy Ebsen through the years: On the left, as a young actor in Hollywood when he appeared with Judy Garland and Shirley Temple; center, in his role as Jed Clampett from "The Beverly Hillbillies"; and at right, as he appears today in retirement.

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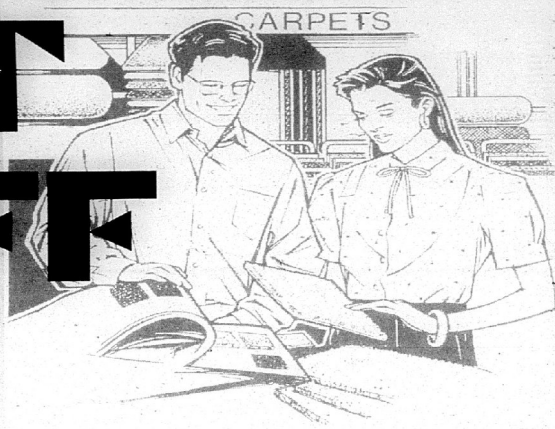
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Edwardsville's Laurie Metcalf started out shy

By Jennifer Saxton
Staff writer

From being in the right place at the right time, former Edwardsville resident and popular movie and TV actress Laurie Metcalf has always used her talent in the best ways.

Her mother, Libby, remembers that, when Laurie was younger, she was a very shy person at Edwardsville High School. "Laurie never missed a day in high school," Libby Metcalf said. "And when she was supposed to receive a perfect attendance award in front of the school, she refused and said she would skip a day just so she wouldn't have to receive the award."

But it was a completely different story when Laurie got on stage, Libby said. She said she had heard that many actors were shy, but could just open up on the stage.

"She could have you crying one moment and laughing the next," Libby Metcalf said.

According to her mother, Laurie was never interested in acting as a profession until late in college. Still, she was very active in drama in high school, playing in shows such as "Mame," "Pajama Game" and "The Children's Hour."

In college, Laurie started as a German major and later, after meeting some drama students, changed her major to theater.

"After meeting the students in drama, she decided to change her major, but the fact that she could graduate earlier than expected may have had something to do with it, also," Libby Metcalf said.

After college, she and those students, who had changed her life, moved to Chicago to try and create their own theater company. The theater company turned out to be the legendary Steppenwolf Theater and, besides Laurie, some of those other actors are now well-known names in Hollywood, such as John Malkovich and Gary Sinise.

"They were all working odd, part-time jobs and acting out of a church basement in Chicago," Libby Metcalf said.

She and other Steppenwolf alumnae try to get together at least once a year in Chicago to act in a performance altogether. Several years later in the late 1980s, Laurie told her family that she was reluctant about taking an acting role in a new sitcom. Her mother said Laurie thought the role would stereotype her into certain types of roles. And it would keep her from being able to get the roles she would really love, performing on the stage.

"We told her to just take the chance because, what would she lose in trying?" Libby Metcalf said.

That sitcom turned out to be "Roseanne," where Laurie got much of her fame as Jackie, Roseanne's sister. Laurie played Jackie during the entire life of the show, 1988-1997. As Jackie, Laurie won three Emmy awards for outstanding supporting actress in a comedy series.

Besides "Roseanne," Laurie has appeared in numerous films such as her first feature film role in "Desperately Seeking Susan" with Madonna, in 1985, "Uncle Buck" with John Candy in 1989 and "Dear God" with Greg Kinnear in



Laurie Metcalf

1996.

Along with film, Laurie has been seen in many stage performances including an off Broadway performance, "Balm in Gilead," which she won an Obie Award.

"Now all she has to do is win a Tony and an Oscar and she'll be set," Libby Metcalf said.

Metcalf said she is very proud of her daughter and thinks that its wonderful how far Laurie has taken her career.

"She is very talented and I have no doubt that she will always be able to act," Libby Metcalf said. "She has always been at the right

place at the right time."

Laurie lives in North Hollywood with Matt Roth and her children, Zoe, 16, and Will, 6. Currently, she is starring in "The Norm Show" as Laurie, a social worker working in a dysfunctional office with Norm Henderson (played by comedian Norm MacDonald).

Her mother said Laurie has not been back to Edwardsville in over three years. But she came to Southern Illinois University Edwardsville to do a performance for the drama department and hopes to someday come back and visit her old high school.

Belleville's Ludolpho 'Buddy' Ebsen is a television immortal

Continued from Page 5B

Christian and Frances Ebsen were avid followers of a physical fitness regime, which transferred to Buddy at an early age. Their good health was also influenced by years of dancing instruction and swimming.

After moving to Florida with his family early in his life, he headed for the bright lights and mean streets of New York City to seek fame and fortune as a Broadway actor and singer.

His early theatrical credits include the musicals "Whoopie," "Flying Colors" and "Ziegfeld Follies."

By the mid-1930s, he had found his way into the film industry, starring in "Broadway Melody of 1935" with his sister, Vilma; "Broadway Melody of 1938" with Judy Garland, and the Shirley Temple classic "Captain January."

He might have found his real break as the "Tin Man" in the forever memorable "Wizard of Oz," only to lose the part due to an allergic reaction the silver paint dust that they used for costume.

The anniversary reissue of the classic features a dance number with Ebsen as the "Tin Man."

His career never truly suffered, though, and he moved on up the ladder as a Hollywood great.

His notable television career started off with playing Fess Parker's sidekick, George Russell in the series, "Davy Crockett."

Immediately following that break, he landed the role as a lucky hillbilly in the classic series, "Beverly Hillbillies" as "Jed Clampett, millionaire."

That show made him a household name, and he never looked back. Less than two years after the demise of "Hillbillies," he got the starring role of "Barnaby Jones" as a detective for seven years.

Today, he's 91 years young and remains active as a painter and writer. He has released 10 paintings on the internet as the Uncle Jed Country series at www.phantoms.com/buddy.htm.

He resides in California with his wife, Dorothy, who helps him with his writing, where he recently wrote a play that features a story based on his life.

Buddy Ebsen is best known for his role as Jed Clampett, the patriarch of "The Beverly Hillbillies," a staple of the CBS television schedule throughout most of the 1960s.



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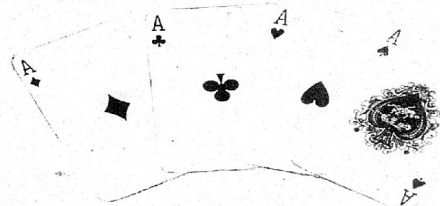
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Hometown Stars

Columbia T.J. Mathews: a top relief pitcher

By Karen Vartanian
Staff writer

Columbia native T.J. Mathews continued to carve his niche as a dependable Major League Baseball reliever in 1999.

Mathews, who pitches for the Oakland Athletics of the American League, went 9-5 with three saves and a 3.81 earned run average this season. The righthander allowed 46 hits in 59 innings.

Opponents also batted just .218 against Mathews, who now is 29-22 overall with 15 saves in five Major League campaigns.

"This season was great," said Mathews, who has a career ERA of 3.38. "I was real happy."

Mathews began his MLB career with the St. Louis Cardinals in 1995 before he,

Blake Stein and Eric Ludwick were traded to the A's for slugger Mark McGwire on July 31, 1997.

In three years of National League service with St. Louis, Mathews, who was selected in the 36th round of the June 1992 free-agent draft by the Cardinals, finished with a 7-11 record, eight saves and a 2.49 ERA.

Mathews is 22-11 with seven saves for Oakland since the trade.

Despite his success, Mathews endured some adversity in his latest campaign. After overcoming a shoulder injury early in 1999, Mathews, a 1988 Columbia High graduate, encountered elbow problems late in the season.

"It was unfortunate," Mathews said. "They told me I was going to be the closer."

I was pitching so well, and I didn't want to say anything. But I couldn't perform.

"Some days, I couldn't even throw. I feel like I had the opportunity to become the closer and let it slip through my fingers."

The injury forced Mathews to miss several games in early September. He still appeared frequently during the final month.

"The first of September is when it really started to bother me," Mathews said. "I pitched quite a bit in September. I fought through the pain but it was day-to-day in September."

Mathews flew to Los Angeles last week to have minor surgery on the elbow. He said doctors planned to drain some fluid from the elbow while also removing two bone spurs.

Mathews, who had surgery for the first time in his career, said the procedure was not major. He expects to be fully recovered by Christmas.

Overall, Mathews' performance in 1999 helped Oakland improve dramatically from 1998.

The A's finished 87-75 this season, eight games behind Texas in the American League Western Division. Oakland also finished seven games behind the Boston Red Sox in the wild card race.

Oakland was 74-88 in 1998 and finished 14 games out of first place.

"I don't think a lot of people before the season expected us to do what we did," Mathews said. "If you would've asked people before the season if we would have

been 12 or 13 games over .500, they would not have believed it. I don't think a lot of the players would have either."

"We had a lot of players have career years and guys that had good years. No one had a bad year and that allowed us to have the success we did."

The acquisitions of Kevin Appier, Randy Velarde, Greg McMichael and Brighton resident Jason Isringhausen at the July 31 trading deadline helped Oakland remain in the wild card chase until late September.

But the Red Sox, who received key contributions from Belleville native Brian Daubach this season, eventually pulled away.

During one stretch late in the season, the A's went 13-6

but lost 4 1/2 games in the standings to the Red Sox, who were 18-2 during the same period.

"That's tough," Mathews said. "We played really well up until the trading deadline. We made a couple of key acquisitions and pick-ups that really put us in the hunt for the wild card."

After signing a one-year deal with Oakland last year, Mathews expects to return with the A's in 2000. Mathews, who someday hopes to be a closer, said contract talks typically take place in December.

"I'll be back in Oakland in 2000 and possibly the year after," Mathews said.

"But there aren't any guarantees in baseball."

Jackie Joyner-Kersee: one of our Olympic greats

By April Calvin
Staff writer

An East St. Louis legend, Jackie Joyner-Kersee remains a positive force even in retirement.

"I think I've been busier since I retired," said Joyner-Kersee.

Though best known for her athletic achievements, Joyner-Kersee is proudest of her grassroots efforts to improve the lives of others like herself.

"The dream for me was always to help others so they could be successful...to be proud of our roots and proud of our community," Joyner-Kersee noted. "There are some that fall victim to their environment...they lose sight of their goals."

Born Jacqueline Joyner on March 3, 1962, she remembers fondly the community center near her home. Returning to East St. Louis years later, Joyner-Kersee was dismayed to find it closed.

"I always wanted to give something back to the community," said Joyner-Kersee. And her Jackie Joyner-Kersee Youth Center Foundation, in Jones Park, is her way of doing that. Some \$10 million raised for the project was divided between funds for construction, and a trust to cover maintenance and operating costs. A statue of her stands at the center's entrance, listing her accomplishments.

Downplaying her own

"The dream for me was always to help others so they could be successful...to be proud of our roots and proud of our community."

Jackie Joyner-Kersee

instrumentality in the project, Joyner-Kersee expressed her intentions simply: "My goal is to continue to raise money for my foundation."

The center offers a variety of events, activities and

programs to area residents of all ages. Joyner-Kersee hopes to add a swimming pool and a program of asthma awareness. She envisions the center as a place where people can go for enrichment, to do things they can't do at home, and as a true boon to the community.

Joyner-Kersee's athletic career is among the most memorable in sports history. She has been called the World's Greatest Female Athlete, Queen of Track and Field, and Sporting News' Woman of the Year for 1988. Joyner-Kersee has won six Olympic medals: three gold, one silver and two bronze. She has set records in track and field events, only to break them.

"You have to work hard," Joyner-Kersee said frankly.

Following the recent loss of sister-in-law Florence Griffith-Joyner, Joyner-Kersee remembered her fondness for children.

"In Florence's short life there was much joy. I really cherished her friendship. Even though we know she's in God's hands, we still miss her. It's very difficult."

Joyner-Kersee's philosophy is every bit as upbeat as one might expect from a woman with such an impressive list of achievements.

"My advice to young people is to always believe in yourself and to believe in your dreams," she said.

"You have to be willing to commit yourself to work

hard, and not use your obstacles as an excuse. Don't compare yourself to others," Joyner-Kersee advised. "Everything is relative, really."

"A lot of times we give up because we're not willing to go that extra mile," she said. And it is that extra effort, she said, that will ultimately lead to success.

"If you're willing to keep pushing yourself, to keep trying, you'll reach your goals."

"For me, my greatest achievement was graduating from college," Joyner-Kersee said. She earned her degree from UCLA in 1985, majoring in history, with an African history focus.

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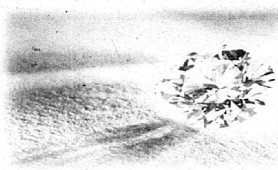


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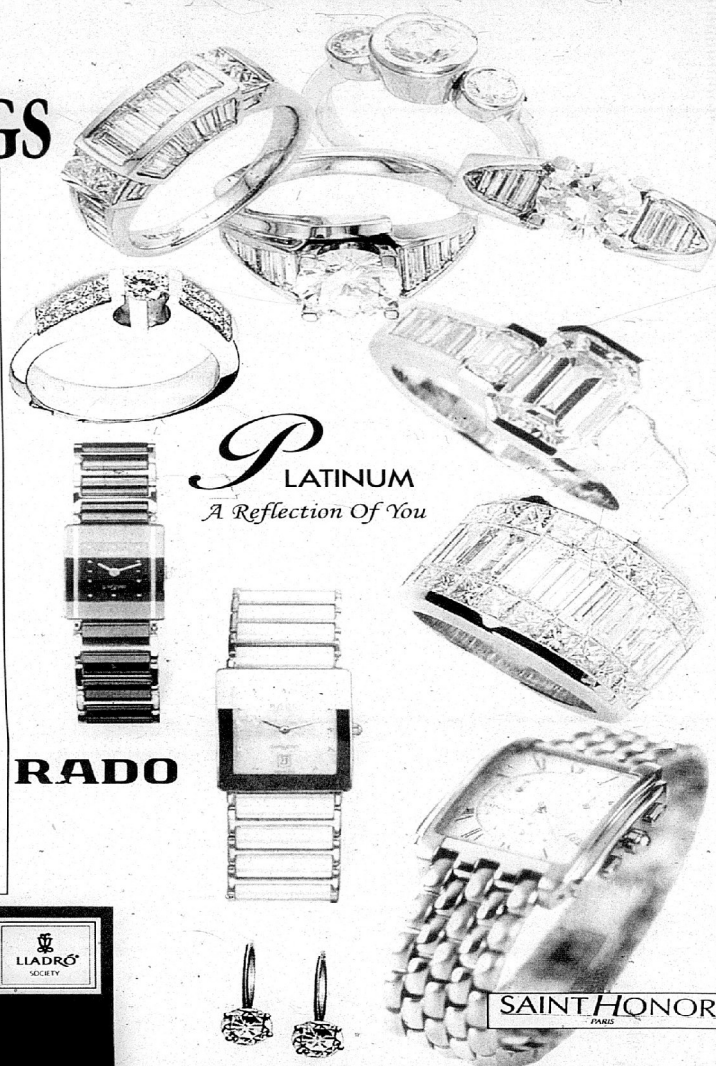
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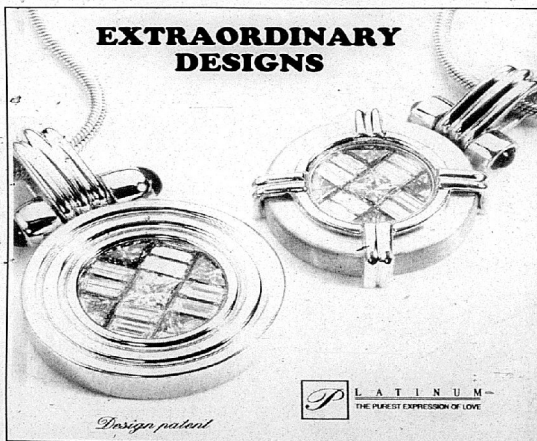


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Saturn's mid-sized wagon focuses on practicality

By Tom Strongman

Considering the popularity of minivans and sport-utility vehicles, you might think station wagons are a thing of the past, but Saturn clearly thinks otherwise.

So much so, in fact, that when it came time to expand its lineup by adding the mid-size L-Series, a station wagon was imperative. Saturn thinks it may account for 20 percent of the L-Series' sales, and well it might because neither the Toyota Camry nor Honda Accord offers station wagons, and those models are among the L-Series' fiercest competitors.

The L-Series, built in Saturn's second plant in Wilmington, Del., is heavily based on the Opel Vectra from General Motors' German division. As such, it has a distinctly European flavor, particularly in the way it drives and the design of the interior. The chassis is longer than a Vectra for a longer

The exterior has been changed extensively to accommodate

Saturn's popular polymer plastic body panels and front fenders. The hood, trunk roof and rear quarter panels are steel.

Exterior styling retains numerous Saturn cues, including the belt-line crease and round nose. The station wagon is attractive to me, because it has the sedan's comfort and handling yet it is capable of hauling substantial amounts of cargo.

There are two trim levels, the LW1 and LW2. The key difference between the two can be found under the hood. The LW1 has a 2.2-liter, four-cylinder engine while the LW2 has a 3.0-liter V-6. Since I drove a V-6-engined sedan some weeks back, it seemed prudent to check out a station wagon with the smaller engine.

There's no doubt that the V-6, with 182 horsepower, is preferable to the 137-horsepower four-cylinder, especially in a car that weighs 3,152 pounds. The four-cylinder steps away from a stop with less vigor than the V-6, but once rolling it does just fine. It felt quite good on the highway.

Choosing the LW1 over the LW2 has two major advantages: It starts at \$18,835 vs. \$21,360 for the LW2, and it gets better gas mileage. For buyers who put cost and economy first, the LW1 is the

Aside from the engine, the differences between the LW1 and LW2 are minimal. Both models are pretty well equipped. Anti-lock brakes, including traction control, adds \$695, and the leather seat package, which includes six-way adjustable and heated seats, is another \$1,095.

Suspension is by MacPherson strut in front and multilink in back. While the ride is biased toward comfort, it still has a nice firmness to it.

Inside, the LW1 is much more elegant than the smaller S-Series. Large, readable gauges dominate the instrument panel, which is covered with a leatherlike texture that is most appealing. The overall look

The test car's optional leather bucket seats were most pleasant.

Power window switches are placed on the console, thanks to its European roots, but I prefer them on the door panel.

The air conditioning system has an air filtration system to catch dust, soot and other impurities. Rear-seat legroom is more than

adequate. The split-folding rear back seat has a pull-down center armrest with built-in cup holders. The cargo area is finished with thick carpet and a pull-out security cover. By offering a mid-size wagon when its competition doesn't, Saturn positions itself to capture a segment of business it might lose to folks who want more versatility than a sedan but without the bulk of an SUV.

The base price of our test car was \$18,835. Options included floor mats, anti-lock brakes with traction control, fog lamps, upgraded audio system with CD player, heated seats, leather upholstery and a power driver's seat.

The sticker price was \$21,850.
The warranty is for three years

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Schools facing more shortages in teachers

Community partnerships are changing the way teachers are taught

By Barbara Ponder
 Correspondent

Amidst retirement parties and promises to keep in touch, one generation of educators is passing the baton to the next.

Let's just hope there are enough new teachers to continue the race.

Based upon projected retirements and population growth, the United States needs to certify about 2.2 million teachers over the next seven to nine years, said Charles Schmitz, dean of the School of Education at the University of Missouri-St. Louis.

In the St. Louis area, schools must find about 25,000 new teachers as an estimated 40 percent of today's staff reach retirement during the next several years.

"If you think we've got a teacher shortage now, you ain't seen nothing yet," Schmitz said. "If I were a young person, I'd be paying attention and I think a lot of them are."

Schmitz said recent data from the American College Testing (ACT) program indicates that more students are interested in entering the profession than have been in the past.

However, as students become aware of drawbacks, like low salary and long hours, their enthusiasm for the field could wane. An entry level teacher earns an average salary of \$22,000.

UM-St. Louis offers a bachelor's degree in education that includes Missouri teacher certification as well as a master's and

doctorate programs.

The university's School of Education — one of the largest in the state — graduates between 400 and 500 teachers annually.

About 1,450 undergraduate

"Almost from the time a person expresses an interest in education, they'll be having real experiences with real kids in real schools."

Charles Schmitz
 Dean of School of Education at UM-St. Louis

and 900 graduates students now attend the school along with 200 degree students seeking certification.

The need for teachers already is critical in mathematics, science, technology and special education, and could grow severe in early childhood education as well, Schmitz said. With so many teaching positions available, shortages are expected to hit hard in urban and rural schools.

Schmitz said the profession attracts too few minorities, making partnerships with local schools non-representative of the student body.

About one-third of kids are people of color but only five to fifteen percent of the teachers are and that ratio is getting worse," he said.

Education is reevaluating the way teachers are taught and developing new methods including partnerships with local schools, community resources and others.

Students will spend less time

in college classrooms.

The training programs are going to be much more field based and not just in student teaching, Schmitz said.

"Almost from the time a person expresses an interest in education, they'll be having real experiences with real kids in real schools."

Partnerships already exist with a few schools and the goal is to have at least 25 active partners within three years.

Schmitz said schools of education no longer can bear sole responsibility for training teachers.

"Our models say we've got to do it different than that," he said. "The people in the schools are just as responsible for preparing teachers as we are. We must work together to do that because that way we can do it with the most effective."

Under a recently awarded federal grant, UM-St. Louis' School of Education will work with underprivileged middle school students, through high school graduation, to prepare the students for college.

Partners in the grant include local schools and the St. Louis Cardinals and Rams.

"Imagine what we can do to improve the lives of children with that \$2.5 million (grant)," Schmitz said. "We could have never done it without the partners."

Eventually, technology also will serve to decrease the time that student physically spend at



Charles Schmitz is the dean of the School of Education at the University of Missouri-St. Louis.

the college.

"We're working on trying to develop online graduate degrees," Schmitz said. "We'd offer a lot of the instruction via the Internet with two-way audio and video."

The school's Technology and Learning Center, under construction in a former chapel, is scheduled to open sometime in January. Teachers using the community resource will receive technology training on state-of-the-art equipment.

Community partnerships play a major role as the school enters

"Imagine what we can do to improve the lives of children with that \$2.5 million (grant). We could have never done it without the partners."

Charles Schmitz
 Dean of School of Education at UM-St. Louis

the 21st Century and offer excellent resources that the school would be unable to duplicate.

"Imagine if you will, how we can work together with the Science Center to improve science education in our schools

and classrooms," Schmitz said. "We are all in this together and we have to work together."

The Regional Institute for Science Education is one of the organizations housed in the St. Louis Regional Education Park on the campus.

representatives from both private and public sectors on its advisory board, the institute's mission is to provide support and programs to increase the science literacy of people living in the area.

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
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2530 OFFICE SPACE
FOR RENT
2530 OFFICE SPACE
FOR RENT

RESTAURANT

For Sale or Lease

This full, equipped restaurant had done excellent business in the past and present. The location offers very good visibility. The site is set up for parking. Includes walk-in and all other equipment. Don't miss this opportunity!

MAJOR RELATIONS CONTRAST FOR DEED

(618) 465-1224

100% FINANCING

AVAILABLE ON NEW BUILDER HOMES

5128 Sturgeon Drive
2 story, 1630 sq. ft. with huge bedrooms \$105,000

5165 Stacie Drive
Very large expandable family home \$105,000

104 Emerald Way West
Dramatic flexible, open living ranch with full basement \$128,900

100 Emerald Way West
About 2,000 sq. ft. Superior 2 story for sale. 3 car garage, occupancy negotiable \$159,900

Call for details in showing M.L.L.C.

Broker/Owner
618-338-0681 or
314-625-1198

VALUERS

-0024-

RECORDED
This can do for start lower
DUCK DUPLEX
Over-sized 2BR
bath with own
art space
\$38

MONEY
2 bedrooms, new
carpet, new
to month
\$38

REPLACE THE
Duplex is a
Mortgage
flex offers ex-
full basement
garage, full
bath, 2
Wilson Park
63

SUPER VALUE PLUS The shopped
up, on a full size, 52'x185'
Excellent location at the Legacy
Club Course overlooking #10
Green & Green Lake & the
clubhouse. Perfect for a sprawling
golf with first floor utilities.
Broker-owned.

DON'T OVER LOOK THIS
FOUR LEAF CLOVER This 2
bedroom home features ex-large
kitchen throughout. You enjoy
the outdoors in the large screened
porch. 2nd floor has 2 bedrooms
bathrooms. There is so much value
here for only \$279,900 Call today
to see \$260

REDUCED & FRESHLY
PAINTED, PAPERED, NEW
LOOKING This charming
home is very near Holy Family
School & it is in move-in condition.
1st & 2nd BR new kitchen
cabinets & counter tops & ready to
move in. Located in Redwood
of \$229,900 Agent related to seller.
\$175

THIS IS REALLY EXCITING &
WORTH THE WAIT This home is
for a down payment. It's a on
bedroom home with a newer
hvacnce c/a and a full basement
This is "Value Plus" \$1545

Serving the
Beautiful
Bedroom
Community of
Granite City & Surrounding
Areas
Since 1962.

CITY

Granite City, IL

50

—BY GRANITE CITY JOURNAL READERS

NEW LISTING

COOL HOME READY FOR NEW
FAMILY! 2 BR, full basement w/2
bathrooms, enclosed, rear
enclosed, rear, thermal, 2 car
carport, large front yard, 2 car
carport. Move in condition, Payments
to choose from \$899.00

FEATURED PROPERTIES

CLOSE TO EVERYTHING! Very well
maintained home. Many updates -
newer furnace & a/c, double pane fill in
windows, both installed w/new
plumbing & new sewer line in 94. Very
spacious family room/dining room area.
Call today to show/easy to sell! \$125,000

VERY NICE BRICK RANCH
RECENTLY RENOVATED; including
new neutral carpet, new kitchen, freshly
painted walls, updated baths, new light
fixtures. Nice kitchen with pretty
cabinets, 3 bedrooms, 2 bath, 2 car
attached garage, full basement,
unfinished with fireplace. Deck and
partially fenced yard. Great
neighborhood, Nidderhousen School
district. Seller is offering Home
Warranty. CR528

GREAT STARTER HOME!! Excellent
investment property! 2 bedroom home
with newer furnace and new carpet.
Freshly painted. Hurry at a price like this
it won't last long! CR808

COZY & CONVENIENT. 3 bedroom
home features newer roof, fenced
backyard, carport and large eat-in
kitchen with newer over-stove, more
cabinets than you'll ever need. Close to
schools & shopping. Seller is offering
Home Warranty CR124

AND OPERATED. e-mail:
c21royce@aol.com



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1735 Pontoon Road • 931-2711

Home Page: members.aol.com/cvmsratty/home.htm

OFFICE HOURS: Mon-Fri 9-6 • Saturday 10-2



2137 Pontoon Rd.

Hostess: Mary Harper



2133 Waterman

Host: Bob Simon



3401 Franklin

Hostess: Barb Wyatt-Yut

NEW LISTING - 2 BR cottage in Mitchell - Many updates, freshly painted, 2 car garage - Cute as a button! Priced in \$40's. GR176

NEW LISTING - Good starter home in park area - Living/dining room combo, family room in full basement, detached garage, privacy fenced yard. GR221

NEW LISTING - Nice 3 BR brick ranch with birch cabinets, built-in oven/cooktop, dishwasher in kitchen. Marble sills, partially finished basement, attached garage. GR003

NEW LISTING - BR crack on edge of park area - Living/dining room combo, 1st floor laundry, fenced lot. Must see this one! PB094

COMMERCIAL PROPERTY - Owner Financing w/20% down - 2 buildings plus extra lot - 1,920 sq. ft. each building, alarm system in both buildings. GR365

ATTENTION INVESTORS: Brick 4 unit with rear apartment plus a 2 unit apartment building. Total rents of \$2,205/month. A great opportunity. GR140

HORSE OWNER'S DREAM - Spacious brick ranch on 6 acres, barn with 8 or more stalls, round pen, pond. EA166

2.24 ACRES - Electric and sewer available. Priced under \$20,000. PB311

NEEDS SOME TLC - 2 story home with 3 BR, some updated wiring & plumbing being done now, large lot. MA322

VACANT LAND - Zoned B-2 commercial, great spot for restaurants, retail shops, etc. - located on busy highway, 7 lots available. Can buy as complete package or will sell separately. PB392

CONGRATULATIONS

LYNN RIEGER-CARR
Sales Associate with CMV has exceeded requirements as a 4 million dollar producer for the **1996 PLATINUM AWARD**

BUILDING LOT - Fairview Heights location - Ideal for walkout basement. Motivated seller! Make offer. FA373

OUTSKIRTS DOUBLE LOT 2 BR home has been updated. Priced to sell at \$34,900. GR182

NEW LISTING - 3 BR home with efficiency apartment attached. Could be a 4 BR, 2 bath home. 2 large decks, oversized garage, mostly new windows. GR212

BACK ON MARKET and at a reduced price! Nice 3 BR brick with eat-in kitchen, w/b fireplace in living room, patio, above ground pool, large det. garage. PB352

THINKING OF BUILDING? Want to stay in GC? Call about this nice sized building lot in established neighborhood. GR314

DID YOU KNOW THAT... The GC School Board has implemented a textbook replacement plan to adopt a new series every seven years.



RE/MAX

ONE PROFESSIONAL PARK DR
CORNER HWY 150 & 62
NASHVILLE, TN 37210

288-7102

Realty Centre

OFFICE HOURS: 9:00-7:00 DAILY. OPEN SUNDAY
Visit us on the internet: REMAXMADISONCOUNTY.NET
EACH OFFICE INDEPENDENTLY OWNED & OPERATED

NEW CONSTRUCTION OPEN SUNDAY

STONEBRIDGE LOT 159	COPPER CREEK LOT 114	SOMERSET PLACE LOT 7	14 MEADOW BROOK DR
\$168,900	\$119,900	\$129,900	\$132,900
ALSO AVAILABLE:	ALSO AVAILABLE:	ALSO AVAILABLE:	ALSO AVAILABLE:
LOT 27 MANOR \$179,900	LOT 122 \$105,900	LOT 113 SOMERSET DR \$135,900	LOT 115 \$134,900
LOT 15 MANOR \$179,900	LOT 118 \$114,900	LOT 5 \$129,900	LOT 109 \$142,500
LOT 110 \$176,900	LOT 133 \$118,900	LOT 6 \$219,900	TURTLE CREEK LOT 112 \$119,900
LOT 85 \$159,900	LOT 134 \$119,900	LOT 131 \$114,900	LOT 107 \$115,900
LOT 161 \$159,900		FAIR OAKS LOT 137 \$129,900	1517 FAIR OAKS DR \$140,000

MANY HOMES OPEN IN ALL OF THESE SUBDIVISIONS

CALL JAN OR TERRY FOR DIRECTIONS - 288-1944

OPEN HOUSES • SUN., OCT. 31, 2-4 PM

WILDEWOOD COVE SUBDIVISION

LOT 16 GRANDBROOK ESTS. COLLINSVILLE, \$174,900

ALSO OPEN:

LOT 11-2 STORY \$169,900

LOT 17-RANCH \$174,900

LOT 26-1 1/2 STORY \$189,900

DIRECTIONS: Bellline Rd. to Bridleridge to Grandbrook. Call SUSAN JO JENKINS 324-2564 or MARY PORTER 341-2827.

LOT 37 WILDEWOOD COVE WOODFIN, \$179,900

NEW LOWER PRICE

STUNNING 4 BR HOME on large wooded lot w/3 car side entry garage, sitting area with Palladium window with view of lake. Men can be 5th BR. Many extras & upgrades. Call VICKI CARROLL 531-6779

DIRECTIONS: From 157 to Stanton Rd. to Wildevood Cove or 155 to Rt. 140 to Stanton Rd. to Wildevood Cove.

LOT 72 WILDEWOOD COVE WORDEN, \$229,900

ABSOLUTELY GORGEOUS!

luxury living in the country on 17 acre stocked with Wood floors, bay windows, 2 fireplaces, vaulted ceilings, whirlpool & the list goes on! Easy access to interstate. Call VICKI CARROLL today for your private showing. 531-6710

LOT 101 GUINNEY HILL COLLINSVILLE, \$98,000

2.39 ACRES! 3BR's, walkout bsmt, woodburner, hardwood floors, updated kitchen & baths, over 1900 sq. ft. DIRECTIONS: Church St. to Belmont to left on Guinney Hill. MARY PORTER 341-2827.

1544 WHITESELL WAY GRANITE CITY, \$109,900

WHAT A DEAL! Almost new home close to interstate & minutes from the city! Open floor plan, FP in LR, security system & more. DIRECTIONS: Hwy 111 to Engineers Rd. to Whitesell Way. Call VICKI CARROLL 531-6710 or JOSHUA CARROLL 531-6712.

THIS ONE WON'T LAST LONG! Located in Rolling Meadows 2 BR finished walkout bsmt, lots of fencing, decking & beautiful landscaping! Call ROZANNE HUNTER for your showing 558-1158. #M6248

2 STORY ON CORNER LOT! Very recent remodeling, main floor laundry, open staircase in foyer. \$63,000. #M6265. Call ROZANNE HUNTER 558-1158.

4 YEAR OLD RANCH ON CORNER LOT! 1282 Sq. Ft., 3 BR's, large kitchen, walkin closets. Priced to sell at \$79,900. #MR6298. Mary Porter

REDUCED! LOTS OF CHARM & CHARACTER! Beautiful hardwood floors, gas FP, four season room. Family room, BR & 3/4 bath in LL. \$123,500. #G16189. ROZANNE HUNTER

NEW CONSTRUCTION! CULDESAC LOT BACKS TO PEARL Ranch with cathedral ceilings, 1st floor laundry, bsmt, FP & walkin closet. Choose colors. #M6275. Mary Porter

"The things we did last summer..."



A jousting match (above) was one of the highlights of The Renaissance Fair, held the last weekend of July and the first weekend of August at Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville. All in all, with a number of events recreating various times in history, the Summer of 1999 was the Good Old Days, (below).

Journal
staff
photos



A scrapbook of photos from the Journal archives

It seems like only yesterday. In fact, weatherwise, it practically was. In our rush to fast-forward through 1999 in order to get to that ever-momentous New Year's Eve, we nearly missed summer. One day we were shoveling snow, and then we turned around and discovered it was almost Halloween already.

But summer didn't really pass us by. Many of us in the Metro East area slowed down long enough to catch a parade, take a ride on a Ferris wheel, or take in one of the many Fair-type events that seemed to be going on somewhere every weekend.

And the Journal was there. Our staff photographers were hard at work, cameras in hand, snapping away for that great front page shot or that photo feature. Maybe they caught you there in one of those crowd scenes.

2630 OFFICE SPACE FOR RENT

NEEDS SPACE? In Granite City, we have 800 sq. ft. for rent. Includes, entrance, & full bath. Call (618) 346-7878. No lease commitment.

94 Rolling Oaks

2 bedroom, 1 1/2 bath, deck off kitchen, one car garage w/washer & dryer hookups. \$575/mo. 346-7878

OFFICE SPACE CORVILLVILLE

875 sq. ft., 1400 sq. ft., & offices, large storage. \$200/mo. 346-7878

STONEBRIDGE GOLF CLUB

Reception area & 3 offices with 840 sq. ft. Located in Maryville. \$700/mo. 346-7878

2601 APARTMENTS/FLATS FURNISHED

APARTMENT FOR RENT. 500 sq. ft., 1200 sq. ft., 1500 sq. ft. Call (618) 346-7878.

1200 APT.

Upper Collinsville and 2nd, apt. central heat, cable, T.V., utilities paid. \$500 per month. \$250 deposit. 346-7878

EFFICIENTLY LIVED Location

Call (618) 346-7878

2620 APARTMENTS/FLATS UNFURNISHED

APARTMENT FOR RENT. 2 bedrooms, 1 1/2 bath, central heat, cable, T.V., utilities paid. \$500 per month. \$250 deposit. 346-7878

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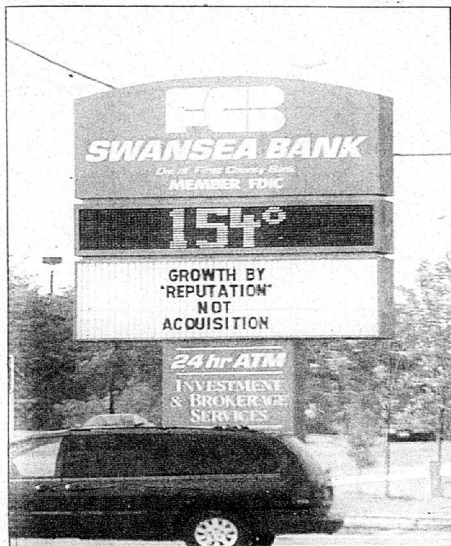
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Collinsville's annual Italian Fest marked the unofficial end of summer, starting the Friday night before the first morning of fall. At left is one of its parade floats.

"The things we did last summer..."

A scrapbook of photos from the *Journal* archives



The weather got a little warm in late July, but really not as bad as it seemed (left). It was a good season for hometown fun (above and below) and Ferris wheels (right). It was just a good season.



"I Have Some Good News About Medicare Coverage." — Anne Keefe

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NOV 2 Tuesday
10:00 a.m.
DePaul Hospital
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12303 DePaul Dr. • Bridgeton

NOV 2 Tuesday
1:30 p.m.
St. Luke's Hospital
Conference Room 3
232 S. Woods Mill Rd. • Chesterfield

NOV 3 Wednesday
2:00 p.m.
St. Joseph's Hospital
Room 1-3
300 First Capitol Dr. • St. Charles

NOV 9 Tuesday
10:00 a.m.
Alexian Brothers Hospital
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NOV 9 Tuesday
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St. Louis Weather bureau looking for storm spotters

By Glen Sparks
Staff writer

The National Weather Service Bureau in St. Louis

has some of the most sophisticated radar and computer equipment in the nation, but it isn't enough. The weather service would need to install radar every 20 feet to get exact storm information for every community, said Jim Krämper, storm warning coordination meteorologist for much of eastern Missouri and southern Illinois.

"And at \$3 million or \$4 million a pop, that isn't going to happen," Krämper said.

Instead, the weather service relies on storm spotters to call the bureau (1-800-852-7397) about such severe weather incidents as

dime-size hail, strong winds, street flooding and, in the most extreme cases, tornadoes.

In the winter, spotters call in snowfall reports or alerts at the onset of freezing rain or sleet.

The weather service is looking for more city residents to be storm spotters. "We need to build up our base of weather spotters in the city," Krämper said at a SKYWARN Spotter Training Class last Thursday night at the St. Louis Senior Center, 5602 Arsenal St.

Often, the bureau uses reports from its storm spotters to issue weather watches and warnings to the community. Nothing, even radar, beats looking out the window.

"I can guess from the radar what's happening. I can be highly sure. But do I know for sure? No. I need someone to tell me. You're near the storm. You know what's happening."

"I can guess from the radar what's happening. I can be highly sure. But do I know for sure? No. I need someone to tell me. You're near the storm. You know what's happening."

Jim Krämper
Storm warning coordination meteorologist

said Krämper, who works in the weather service's St.

Charles office. "I can be highly sure. But do I know for sure? No. I need someone to tell me. You're near the storm. You know what's happening."

To become an official SKYWARN storm spotter, residents must attend one of the weather service's two-hour classes and then fill out a form that then goes into the service's computer. For dates and locations of future SKYWARN classes, Krämper recommends residents call either the city Emergency Management Agency at 622-3501 or the county EMA at 469-3141.

"You get an official number and this tells us when you call in that you probably know more about storms and weather systems than the average citizen," Krämper said.

Spotters should tell the weather service meteorologist what is happening, where it is happening and which direction the storm is moving.

As for tips, quarter-size hail is about 1 inch in diameter. Large branches twist and turn in 25 to 31-mph winds. Entire trees begin swaying in 32 to 38-mph gusts and twigs start breaking off trees at 39 mph. Gusts of 55-mph push over small trees and damage chimneys.

Thunderstorms, of course, seem to hit St. Louis in the spring and summer about as often as Big Mac hits home runs. The strongest storms produce large hail, damaging winds and frequent lightning strikes.

On average, 27 tornadoes

hit Missouri each year. A famous twister in 1896 barreled through Lafayette Square. Another in 1959 tore off part of the Arena roof. Wind speeds inside a tornado can reach speeds in excess of 250-mph.

Krämper discourages - strongly discourages - residents from chasing tornadoes in their cars.

"That's the last thing I want people to do," he said. "We just want information. You can do this by just sitting in your home and looking out the window every once in awhile."

The combination of high-tech equipment and reports from storm spotters is saving lives, Krämper said.

"With radar, we've been able to issue tornado warnings as long as 10 minutes before the tornado forms," he said. "We get successes, and we get failures, but we just don't want to miss anything."

Park District offers Nashville trip

Last overnight trip for 1999 is 3 days in Tennessee

The Granite City Park District is offering its last overnight trip for 1999 the weekend of Dec. 3 through 5. This three-day venture will be to Nashville, Tenn.

The sign-up day for the trip is 8 a.m. Oct. 28 at the Wilson Park Ice Rink. This is a "must" tour for country music lovers as the first evening will include a Southern buffet dinner and entertainment at the new Nashville Nightlife Theatre that features one of six major stars and other lesser-known musical groups. Prior to the dinner and the show, time will be allowed for Christmas shopping at the Factory Merchants Mall after lunch at Luby's Cafeteria and a little time for rest at the Wilson Inn, where the group will stay while in Nashville.

A deluxe continental breakfast will start a busy day two. An early morning tour of the Opryland Hotel will be made while the facility is less busy and then it's on to Franklin,

Tenn., where the group will be split, with one half boarding a smaller coach for a tour of the stars homes while the others will be shopping in the quaint downtown area. This will reverse with all travelers doing both.

The next stop will be on Second Street in downtown Nashville, where time will be allowed to browse and shop at the Hard Rock Cafe, NASCAR Caf, Wild Horse Saloon, Cotton Eye Joe's, etc. The remaining time in the afternoon will include a visit back to the Opryland Hotel for a visit to the Christmas Craft Show for those that wish to attend before an Italian dinner at Café Avanti, also in the hotel that is fully decorated for the Christmas season with miles of red ribbon, garlands and poinsettias inside and over a million lights outside.

After dinner, the group will attend the 6:30 p.m. performance of the World Famous Grand Ole Opry.

Day three will include a visit to "The Hermitage",

home of the late president Andrew Jackson after breakfast and then depart the Nashville area for home. Lunch and browsing time will be at Patti's 1880 Settlement in Grand Rivers, Ky.

The cost of the trip will be \$305 for a single reservation, \$260 per person for two to a room, \$235 per person for a triple and \$225 per person for a quad. This is \$3 more than advertised previously.

One person can sign up for one room, with proof of residency being presented for each person unless husband and wife. Non-residents will be placed on a waiting list and notified of availability one week later.

The trip cost includes motorcoach transportation, hotel, two shows and five meals. For those choosing to attend the craft show, a fee must be paid by each individual at that time.

If more information is needed, call Sue Champion at her residence, 451-1212, or the Wilson Park Office.

Benefit to be held for Walden baby

By Christopher England
Staff Writer

Unfortunately in our world, there are incidents which are just plain unfair, and the case of Brendon Kuhlmann is certainly one of those incidents.

Brendon, who is only 6 months old, is in dire need of a liver transplant. Brendon weighs slightly over 10 pounds and has recently been placed on the transplant list where he awaits the very serious surgery.

The serious situation has brought a strong show of support from friends, volunteers and family members

who are holding a benefit auction for Brendon at the Elks Lodge, 1481 S. Illinois St. in Belleville Nov. 14.

This event will include live music by the Avery Hill Band, says Tom Kuhlmann, Brendon's grandfather and co-chair of the National Foundation for Transplants regarding Brendon Walden.

Kuhlmann says that family and friends would greatly appreciate a business or personal donation of any auction items, services, gift certificates, game tickets, vacation weekends, etc.

Kuhlmann also said that financial donations would be accepted and also will go directly to the transplant fund.

"The registration and association with the 'National Foundation for Transplants' means that all funds are guaranteed to go directly to medical expenses and are tax-deductible within the guidelines of the law," said Kuhlmann.

The projected cost over and above insurance coverage without complications are estimated to exceed \$150,000.

Any direct financial donations in the form of a check should be made payable to National Foundation for Transplants-Brendon Walden Fund and mailed to Brendon Walden Fund, c/o 33 Kimberlin Lane, Belleville, 62220.

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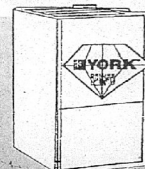
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